

Trust Headquarters
Russell's Hall Hospital
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2HQ

Ref: FOI-000348

Date: 29/9/23

Address / Email:

Dear

Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

1. How many individual cases regarding disclosures made under the Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998 and/or whistleblowers have you fought at employment tribunals since 2015?
Please include a year by year breakdown.
2. How much has been spent on external lawyers and legal advice for Employment Tribunal Litigation pertaining to public interest disclosures in the past five years?
Please include a year by year breakdown.
3. Please can you include the name(s) of the law firm(s) and barristers involved and itemise how much was spent on each?
4. How many ongoing cases are there pertaining to the above and in which year did they start?
5. What is the longest ongoing case relating to any of the above and what has been the cost of this to date?

Questions 1 to 5 - - Information was only centrally recorded from 2019 so unable to provide information prior to this. From 2019 to date the number is less than 5 and the case/cases is/are still ongoing. As per NHS Digital rules the Trust does not publish numbers lower than 5 as this could lead to the identification of the persons involved, Exemption Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act is applied.

6. How many 'guardians' has the trust employed each year since 2015 to date? Please provide a breakdown for each. = 5

from 2015 to present

Started 1st October 2023 - full time
Started 2019 - left August 2023 -full time
2018 - still in role - alongside their substantive role
2017 - 2019 - alongside their substantive role
2015 until 2018- alongside their substantive role

FOI/REF FOI-

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you have the right to appeal in line with guidance from the Information Commissioner. In the first instance you may contact the Information Governance Manager of the Trust.

Information Governance Manager
Trust Headquarters
Russell's Hall Hospital
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2HQ
Email: dgft.dpo@nhs.net

Should you disagree with the contents of our response to your appeal, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioners Office at.

Information Commissioners Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 0303 123 1113
www.ico.org.uk

If you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team
The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust