

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

Ref: FOI-122023-000494

Date: 19th February 2024

Address / Email:

Dear

Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000

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

Request

I am undertaking a FOI request across all UK NHS Hospital Trust/ Health Boards, asking about the training that health visitors and physiotherapists [who provide care within the maternity services] receive about trauma informed care and the causes and consequences of sexual violence, and about the way that maternity services enquire / offer the opportunity to women and birthing people to share if they have experienced sexual abuse and/or sexual violence.

I would be very grateful if you could complete this survey on behalf of your NHS organisation. Please include information about community maternity services, in addition to acute services.

I am aware that the topic of sexual violence is a sensitive one, and that some of these questions may be challenging or upsetting for some people. If you would like to speak to someone about any of the issues in this survey, you can call The Survivors Trust in confidence on 08088 010818 or visit their website on www.thesurvivorstrust.org

Response

Please find attached the completed questionnaire.

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**

FOI request - maternity care for survivors of sexual abuse and/or sexual violence

Dear Sir / Madam

I am undertaking a FOI request across all UK NHS Hospital Trust/ Health Boards, asking about the training that health visitors and physiotherapists [who provide care within the maternity services] receive about trauma informed care and the causes and consequences of sexual violence, and about the way that maternity services enquire / offer the opportunity to women and birthing people to share if they have experienced sexual abuse and/or sexual violence.

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1) Please indicate if your Trust /Health Board provides the following training to all Health Visitors

	Yes / No
Mandatory training about providing trauma informed care	
Mandatory training about the causes and consequences of sexual violence and sexual abuse	

We don't employ health visitors as an organisation, this would need to be directed to the ICB.

2) Please indicate if your Trust /Health Board provides the following training to all physiotherapists who provide care within the maternity services

	Yes / No
Mandatory training about providing trauma informed care	YES
Mandatory training about the causes and consequences of sexual violence and sexual abuse	YES

3) Are women and birthing people routinely asked, or offered the opportunity to share, if they have experienced sexual violence or sexual abuse? [please circle]

Yes No

This is the question asked on the booking document.

Is there anything in your life (past/present) which might make the pregnancy/childbirth difficult? e.g. tokophobia, trauma, childhood sexual abuse, sexual assault	<input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="text"/>
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- 4) If yes, please provide detail about this process [e.g.at what point(s) in their maternity care does this happen; who is the person who makes this enquiry; is this required by any policies etc?]**

This is asked at the first midwife appointment by a midwife. Referrals may be made following disclosure by the lady- this depends on what she tells the midwife and what she then consents to.

- 5) Please state the name of the NHS organisation completing this survey**

The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust