

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

Ref: FOI-112025-0002017

Date: 14.01.2026

Address / Email:

Dear

Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please see response below.

How NHS Trusts organise and oversee cybersecurity governance and organisational learning.

Please provide information for the period 1 January 2018 – 31 December 2024 (inclusive) or the most recent complete year available.

1. Governance framework — The framework used for cybersecurity governance (e.g. NCSC CAF, DSPT, ISO 27001) and the year of its latest board approval.

- **NHS England Data Standards and Protection Toolkit, now based on CAF. Approved 2025. (DSPT achievements can be looked up online).**

2. Board review frequency — How often the board or an executive committee formally reviews cyber resilience or cybersecurity governance (e.g. annually, quarterly, ad hoc).

-) **The Joint Infrastructure Committee receives Cyber Assurance via upward reporting from the Digital Trust Steering Group (DTSG) on bi monthly basis. Additionally, assurance is also reported via the Caldicott Information Governance Group (CIGG) bi monthly with upward reporting to Audit Committee**

3. Most recent review — The title and month/year of the latest board or committee paper or report relating to cyber resilience (no internal findings required).

- **Cyber Security Report November 2025**

4. Reporting line — The current reporting structure for cybersecurity governance (e.g. CISO → CIO → Board).

- **SOC Manager – Head of IT Operations – CIO – Board**

5. External assurance — Whether the Trust has undergone external assurance such as CAF self-assessment, DSPT validation, independent audit, or security testing (e.g. penetration test / red-team). If so, please indicate only the type and frequency, not the scope or results.

- **DSPT completed in 2025**

6. Concurrent improvement programmes — Approximate number of cybersecurity-related improvement programmes or initiatives active concurrently in a typical year (2018–2024) and trend (increasing/decreasing/stable).

- **It is imperative that the Trust is cyber resilient, cyber-attacks against infrastructure have the potential to inflict significant, real-life disruption and prevent access to critical services that are**

vital to the functioning of Trust systems. The Trust considers this information to be sensitive information and are therefore holding this information under section 31 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act. Information - is exempt if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice - (a) the prevention or detection of crime.

7. Internal coordination — Whether a steering group, programme office, or committee coordinates concurrent cybersecurity initiatives within the Trust, and its reporting level (executive/board).

-Cyber Security initiatives are managed/coordinated via the Digital Data and Technology Project Management Office and Cyber Team. Reporting is via the Digital Trust Steering Group (DTSG)

8. Cross-Trust coordination — Whether the Trust participates in structured coordination or information-sharing mechanisms with other NHS Trusts or regional bodies on cyber-resilience governance (e.g. ICS cyber networks), and at what level (regional/national).

- Yes

9. Board learning — Whether board-level training sessions or workshops on cyber resilience have been held since 2018, and in which years.

- Yes, NCSC assured Board Level training took place in 2020, Cyber Board Development in 2023 and a Board Level Cyber Incident Response Exercise in 2024.

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
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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**