The Dudley Group
NHS Foundation Trust

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

Ref: FOI-052026-0002435

Date: 29.05.2026

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 writing on behalf of Homelessness Best Practice. Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am writing to request the following information for your trust:

1. **Hospital Inpatients Identified as Homeless**
a. The total number of patients identified as experiencing homelessness while admitted to hospital during the period 1 January 2025 – 31 December 2025.
b. If possible, please provide a breakdown by month.
c. If homelessness is recorded in your patient record system, please indicate the field name or coding used (e.g., "No Fixed Abode", "Housing Status", "Domestic Abuse" etc).

2. **Duty to Refer Referrals**
a. The total number of Duty to Refer referrals made to local housing authorities for patients identified as homeless during the same period 1 January 2025 – 31 December 2025.
b. If available, please provide a breakdown by month.

3. **Service or Policy Data**
a. Does the trust have a dedicated homelessness liaison nurse, social worker, or specialist team?
b. Are there formal policies or procedures for identifying homelessness on admission and throughout treatment?
c. What training does the trust provide for staff on:
i. Identifying homelessness
ii. The Duty to Refer under the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017?
d. If available, please provide any written guidance, protocols, or discharge guidance given to staff to support patients experiencing homelessness.

If any of this information is publicly available, please provide the relevant links.

Response

We are applying the following exemption to your request, as we have already recently received the same request which is currently being actioned.

Information intended for future publication and research information (sections 22 and 22A)

We are looking to publish this information in due course, and this will be available to view on the Trust's external webpage under the Disclosure Log section.

Disclosure log - The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust (dgft.nhs.uk)

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