

Our Ref: NG/RM/24317
Date: 19th September 2024

Nicola Griffiths
Deputy Director of Governance
North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust
Lawton House
Bellringer Road
Trentham
ST4 8HH

Reception: 0300 123 1535

Dear

Freedom of Information Act Request

I am writing in response to your e-mail of the 3rd September 2024. Your request has been processed using the Trust's procedures for the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

Requested information:

1. Does your Trust provide mental health services for children and young people? **Yes**
2. NHS England has decided that referrals to children and young people's gender services must come from NHS Paediatric or Mental Health Services. It has said that this will come into effect from 1 September 2024 to allow time for NHS services to adjust their operating protocols. Please outline what changes you have made to your operating protocols in response to this decision by NHS England and what date these changes were made by. **We have not made any changes as this is already the Trust operating protocol.**
3. Can you identify:
 - a. Which staff assess patients requesting access to gender services. **Care Coordinator for the CYP**
 - b. Which staff decide whether to refer onward to gender services. **This is decided as part of the multidisciplinary discussion within the multi-professional team.**
 - c. What is the basis of the decision whether to refer to gender services. **This is decided taking into account the clinical presentation when taken in conjunction with the referral criteria for the gender service.**
4. Please outline any training your trust provides staff around trans healthcare. Please include:
 - a. The title of the training. **Trans Awareness Training**
 - b. The length of the training. **1 hour 20 minutes**
 - c. Who provides the training. **A member of the Trust LGBTQ Network and Trust Inclusion and Diversity Lead**
 - d. What staff group it is for. **All Staff**
 - e. Whether it is mandatory. **Not Mandatory**



Chair: Janet Dawson
Chief Executive: Dr Buki Adeyemo
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- f. What percentage of staff who assess patients requesting access to gender services have completed the training listed above around trans healthcare? **It is only possible to provide this data by total workforce, which equates to 4%.**

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review of the management of your request. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Dr Buki Adeyemo, Chief Executive, North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare Trust, Trust Headquarters, Lawton House, Bellringer Road, Trentham, ST4 8HH. If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely



Nicola Griffiths
Deputy Director of Governance