

Our Ref: NG/RM/24417  
Date: 27<sup>th</sup> November 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 21<sup>st</sup> November 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. What is the current coding backlog? **The Trust always work with a manageable backlog as we complete the Clinical Coding process retrospective once a patient is discharged.**
2. How many Finished Consultant Episodes has the Trust coded in the previous 12 months? **The Trust has approx. 1900 FCE's a year.**
3. When clinically coding a mental health inpatient discharge do you record codes for all of the following and if so, why?
  - Primary diagnosis. **Yes**
  - Secondary diagnosis. **Yes**
  - Any comorbidities. **Yes**
  - Injuries and/or overdoses. **Yes**
  - If not, which are omitted? **N/A**
4. When clinically coding a mental health inpatient discharge do you code smoking status? **Yes, if known**

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**