

Our Ref: LW/lmw/FOI.197.23
Date: 21st July 2023

Laurie Wrench
Deputy Director of Governance
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Dear

Freedom of Information Act Request

I am writing in response to your e-mail of the 29th June 2023. Your request has been processed using the Trust's procedures for the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

Requested information:

For each year (2020 – 2022), please confirm how many cyberattacks your Trust has suffered?

This is a difficult number to get as it really depends on the definition. Figures from Sentinel and our Firewall logs which are two of our cyber-defence measures. In the last 3 months Sentinel has picked up 921 Incidents of cyber-attack, 80 of which were true positives, 157 benign positives. In terms of Firewall weakness probes, a little over 72 million requests in/out were blocked

For each year (2020 – 2022), please confirm how many cyberattacks have resulted in the halting of or delay in delivery of care or services to patients?

The Trust has not been impacted in terms of care delivery by any cyberattacks during the period.

For each year (2020-2022), please confirm:

The GBP (£) value of budget allocated to cybersecurity

There is not a dedicated budget for cyber security as such, the Trust outsources the majority of IT and Digital services to a shared service provider which bundles cybersecurity in with other IT services. Expenditure is not categorised in a way to break out specific spend on cyber security

What percentage of the Trust's entire budget for the financial year was spent on cybersecurity? **N/A**

How many times in the last 12 months have you audited your third-party suppliers' cybersecurity measures?

Third party suppliers are required to provide evidence of certification to industry standards related to cybersecurity as part of any contracts for supply of services and evidenced in the DPST returns annually.

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

L. Wrench

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Deputy Director of Governance



Chairman: David Rogers
Chief Executive: Dr Buki Adeyemo
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