

Our Ref: LW/lmw/FOI.304.23  
Date: 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023

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

Tel 01782 275030

Dear

### Freedom of Information Act Request

I am writing in response to your e-mail of the 21<sup>st</sup> September 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:**

- How many individual cases regarding disclosures made under the Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998 and/or whistle-blowers have you fought at employment tribunals since 2015? Please include a year-by-year breakdown.  
**No Employment Tribunal cases have been made since 2015 under the Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998 and/or whistle-blowers.**
- How much has been spent on external lawyers and legal advice for Employment Tribunal Litigation pertaining to public interest disclosures in the past five years? Please include a year-by-year breakdown. **£0**
- Please can you include the name(s) of the law firm(s) and barristers involved and itemise how much was spent on each? **N/A**
- How many ongoing cases are there pertaining to the above and in which year did they start? **N/A**
- What is the longest ongoing case relating to any of the above and what has been the cost of this to date? **N/A**
- How many 'guardians' has the trust employed each year since 2015 to date? Please provide a breakdown for each.

**2015- 2016- 0 WTE specifically dedicated to Freedom To Speak Up (FTSU)**

**2017 - 0.1 WTE**

**2018- 2021 – 0.2 WTE**

**2022 – present – 0.6 WTE**

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*

**Laurie Wrench**  
**Deputy Director of Governance**



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Chief Executive: Dr Buki Adeyemo  
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