

Our Ref: NG/RM/25099  
Date: 25<sup>th</sup> March 2025

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 10<sup>th</sup> March 2025. Your request has been processed using the Trust's procedures for the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

### **Requested information:**

As part of a piece of work I am undertaking to review the spiritual, religious, and/ or chaplaincy services offered by NHS England, I am contacting you to ask for the following information to please be provided.

1. How many whole-time equivalents are employed in the spiritual, religious, and/ or chaplaincy service(s) and what are their bandings? Please differentiate between staff on substantive and temporary contracts, as well as staff working in the service on bank or agency contracts. **0 staff employed by the Trust. However, The Trust has a Service Level Agreement (SLA) for chaplaincy provision for 10 hours per week equivalent to a Band 6.**
2. What are the typical core hours of the spiritual, religious, and/ or chaplaincy service(s) on offer? How are these service(s) provided over the week (i.e. weekdays only, seven days a week, etc)? **Other than a Tuesday morning service hours, this is based on needs of patients and staff.**
3. What type of support (such as regular activities, events, or gatherings) is offered by the spiritual, religious, and / or chaplaincy service(s)? Please differentiate this between support offered to patients, support offered to family/ friends, and support offered to staff members.
  - **A service once a week via Zoom to include as many of the patients on the different wards.**
  - **The Chaplain has provided training sessions on spirituality with medics.**
  - **The Chaplain provides spiritual support to patients, carers, and staff as and when required.**
  - **The Chaplain also have support for any faith concerns through their own church chaplaincy in the community.**

Chair: Janet Dawson  
Chief Executive: Dr Buki Adeyemo  
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- **The Chaplain is currently supporting with an artist for a Stations of The Cross project with one of the Trust's older peoples' wards.**
- 4. What on-call or out-of-hours provisions are made by the spiritual, religious, and / or chaplaincy service(s) at your Trust? Please differentiate between provisions offered by staff members employed by the Trust, and provisions offered by external contractors / arrangements. **N/A**
- 5. What support is offered to the spiritual, religious, and/ or chaplaincy services(s) by external organisations? For instance, what contracts are held by the Trust for this/ these service(s) and who are these contracts with? **N/A**
- 6. On average, how many service users are supported by the spiritual, religious, and/ or chaplaincy service(s) in a week? Please take an average of service users supported between January and December 2024. **Data not collected**
- 7. What is the overall satisfaction for the spiritual, religious, and / or chaplaincy service(s) offered by your Trust? Please provide the overall satisfaction for the period January 2024 to December 2024. **Data not collected**
- 8. What supervision, if any, is provided to staff working in the spiritual, religious, and / or chaplaincy service(s)? Please identify whether this is provided by your Trust or by an external provider, and the average annual cost for this provision. **Patient Experience Lead supports from a Trust perspective. The Diocese provide the ongoing support/ supervision relating to the faith, spiritual perspective of their role.**
- 9. Please provide a contact name and contact email address if there should be any additional queries relating to this Freedom of Information request.  
**Staff names and email addresses are exempt as they constitute personal data and would contravene the principles of the Data Protection Act 2018 (in accordance with qualified exemption S40 (2)(a) of the FOI Act).**

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



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**Deputy Director of Governance**



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