

Our Ref: NG/RM/25175
Date: 4th June 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 13th May 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:

I wish to make a freedom of information request and would be grateful if you could provide the following information:

1. The number of referrals made by your NHS Trust to other authorities - such as the police or social services - when there was a suspicion that a child is a victim of exploitation (sexual, criminal, gang-based grooming) for the years 2010 (or earliest available year of data) - 2024 inclusive.

North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust records data against the four categories of abuse as defined in the Children's Act, so all referrals made to the Local Authority where there are CSE concerns will be captured within these four categories of abuse. The Trust does not record CSE as a standalone category of abuse therefore we are unable to provide this data.

2. The number of risks assessments conducted on children where there was concern that they had been the victim of child sexual exploitation (using the same timeframe as above).

North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust records data against the four categories of abuse as defined in the Children's Act, so all referrals made to the Local Authority where there are CSE concerns will be captured within these four categories of abuse. The Trust does not record CSE as a standalone category of abuse therefore we are unable to provide this data.

3. Details of your NHS Trusts' CSE safeguarding arrangements, including work in multi-agency partnerships.

The Trust is committed to the local partnership arrangements in relation to CSE within the Stoke on Trent and Staffordshire Safeguarding Children's Board. The Trust Safeguarding Team attend multi agency meetings and forums coordinated by the Local Authority in relation to CSE.

Chair: Janet Dawson
Chief Executive: Dr Buki Adeyemo

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4. The number of staff employed by your NHS Trust who have received training on CSE. **CSE awareness is included in the Level 3 Child Safeguarding Training delivered by the Trust Safeguarding Team. It is not standalone CSE training, and this would be provided by the Safeguarding Children Board.**

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