

Our Ref: NG/RM/25205
Date: 5th 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 2nd June 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 am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding the cyber security of your NHS Trust, specifically relating to incidents and the current measures in place to mitigate such threats.

1. Ransomware incidents (FY2022–FY2025)

Please confirm whether any digital systems within hospitals managed by your NHS Trust were affected by ransomware attacks during the financial years 2022–2023 through to 2024–2025 (inclusive). **No**

If yes:

- How many separate ransomware incidents occurred within this period? **N/A**
- For each incident, please provide:
 - The date or month of occurrence. **N/A**
 - A brief description of the nature of the attack (e.g. type of ransomware, point of system entry, services impacted). **N/A**

2. Data breaches following cyber incidents (FY2022–FY2025)

Were any data breaches reported as a result of ransomware or other cyber incidents during this period? **No**

If yes, please provide for each breach:

- The type(s) of data affected (e.g. patient records, staff information). **N/A**
- The specific impacts of each breach, categorised as follows (where applicable):
 - Loss of patient data. **N/A**
 - Loss of staff data. **N/A**
 - Disruption to patient services (please specify which services, if known). **N/A**
 - Disruption to operational processes. **N/A**
 - Financial impact (e.g. cost of recovery, penalties, compensation, etc.). **N/A**
 - Other impacts – please specify. **N/A**

3. Current cyber security measures (as of date of request)

Please list all cyber security measures and protocols currently in place across the Trust. These may include, but are not limited to:

- Cyber insurance (including provider and coverage if available). **No**
- Internal and external firewall systems. **Yes**
- Use of multi-factor authentication (MFA) for user accounts. **Yes**
- Access control systems for sensitive data and critical systems. **Yes**
- Anti-virus and anti-malware protection. **Yes**
- Cyber security training or awareness programmes for employees. **Yes**
- Regular penetration testing or security audits (please specify frequency). **Yes**
- Existence and status of an incident response plan (e.g. last updated date). **Yes, last updated August 2024.**

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