

Our Ref: NG/RM/25346
Date: 13th October 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 29th September 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:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request information regarding the administration of Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT) within your Trust for the calendar year 2024.

Your Trust's contribution is particularly valuable as this request aims to provide a comprehensive picture of current ECT practice across England. Previous requests achieved response rates of 57-66%, and we hope to improve this figure to ensure the most accurate representation possible.

Please provide the following specific information:

1. How many patients in total received ECT in 2024? **27**
2. How many of these were female? **22**
3. How many of these were over 60? **14**
4. How many of these were under 18? **0**
5. How many were referred for psychological assessment before prescribing ECT?
The Trust does hold this information but not a reportable format, to supply this information would require a manual trawl of patients' records. We believe that the cost of collating the information in order to respond to your request would exceed the threshold of £450 as defined by the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate limit Fees) Regulations 2004. As a result, we are refusing your request under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information 2000.

6. How many people received psychology therapy before being prescribed ECT?
The Trust does hold this information but not a reportable format, to supply this information would require a manual trawl of patients' records. We believe that the cost of collating the information in order to respond to your request would exceed the threshold of £450 as defined by the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate limit Fees) Regulations 2004. As a result, we are refusing your request under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information 2000.
7. What measures of clinical outcome were used for patients who received ECT and what were the results? **Patient observation, MADRS (Montgomery-Asberg Depression Rating Scale, CGI (Clinical Global Impression Scale), Patient review/questionnaire. Most patients referred for ECT have some level of improvement in their mental health.**
8. What measures of adverse effects for patients who received ECT were used, and what were the results? **Patient review/questionnaire and MOCA (Montreal Cognitive Assessment), CPRS (Comprehensive Psychopathological Rating Scale). Some patients who receive ECT, although may experience some short-term memory issues during treatment, have no adverse long-term effects.**
9. Which professions did the SOAD consult for patients who did not consent? **A mixture of Registered nurses, Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Psychologists and Pharmacists.**

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