

Our Ref: NG/RM/25386
Date: 25th November 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 October 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:

The lifetime prevalence of mental disorder in the general population is 1 in 4. For profoundly deaf people this approaches 1 in 2 yet the number of deaf adults accessing mental health services is very low.

The National Deaf Mental Health Service supports Deaf BSL users across the middle third of England. We have seen a fall in referrals for community and inpatients in recent years. We are keen to know if there are people accessing local services who may not have been considered for referral to specialised services.

- I would be grateful if you could provide the number of adult deaf sign language users who have been inpatients within your Trust over the last 5 years. **6**
- Please could you provide the number of adult Deaf sign language users currently on the community caseload of the Trust. **5**
- Please also provide the number of adult Deaf sign language users supported by the Trust community services in the last 5 years. **17**

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