

Our Ref: NG/RM/25116
Date: 25th April 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 31st 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:

I am conducting an FOI-based study to explore the current state of community and/or patient public involvement and engagement (PPIE) within high-level agenda setting health research boards in NHS Trusts/ Board in the UK.

May I please ask for the following information under the FOI act.

1. Does your NHS Trust/ Board have an executive board where health research strategy for the hospital/s is set? e.g. a Research and Innovation Board or other relevant high-level board. **North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust does not have a Research and Innovation Board, but Research and Development (R&D) plan and oversight is provided to the Trust Board through its Quality Committee.**
2. If yes, is there a PPIE (patient public involvement engagement) representative on this board with the specific remit to provide insights into research agenda setting from the perspective of a patient with lived experience of health issues or as a member of the public/community? [I am not referring to the presence of a lay chair]. **N/A**
3. Is there a PPIE advisory structure (e.g. board, committee, panel) which provides PPIE insights to inform the work of the executive board? (not within individual study groups- I refer to high level feedback into your research strategy meetings). **The Trust does not have a PPIE advisory structure, but we have a peer representative on the Trust Board. The Trust also has a Service User and Carer Council which is currently under review and whose Chair has a place on the Trust Board.**
4. If yes to question 2, 3, 4 or 5, please provide the most recent minutes/agenda with a list of members with designated roles/ remits (not names). **N/A**

Chair: Janet Dawson
Chief Executive: Dr Buki Adeyemo
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5. Are PPIE representatives remunerated? **N/A**
6. Do you require PPIE representatives to do any training? If yes, please specify e.g. NIHR training or in house-training. **N/A**
7. I realise that some of this information may already be available. However, I was unable to locate it. So, if it is, please provide me with a link to the data. . **General information on Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement at Combined (not specific to research and development) is available at <https://www.combined.nhs.uk/get-involved/ways-to-get-involved-at-combined/>**

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