## **Healthier Communities, Outstanding Care**



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**RE: Freedom of Information Request** 

7<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below. In your request you asked:

As the basis for your reintroduction of Covid-19 face masks at hospitals within the Trust, please supply the following:

- Within the geographical boundaries covered/served by your Trust, Covid-19 case numbers (per 100,000 people) by month since October 2022 until the present day. Information not held. Under Section 16 of the Act we have a duty to provide advice and assistance. You may be able to find the information you require here: https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/
- 2. The most recent date that these mask measures were subject to risk assessment and updated.

12th January 2024 paper discussed and approved at Infection Prevention and Control Committee.

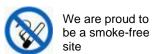
3. A copy of the latest risk assessment document used to determine that it is necessary for you to reintroduce face masks.

Attached Covid-19 Triggers and Escalations.

4. Copies of ANY AND ALL risk assessments that have been used since March 2020 to determine that it is necessary for you to mandate the wearing of face masks. We didn't conduct risk assessments during the first waves of Covid-19 as this was a national mandate for all Trusts. Our escalation process used from November 2022 to support with step down and step up of mask wearing is attached, along with the revised version from end of 2023.

## Home, Community, Hospital.





I trust this information answers your request. Should you have any further enquiries or queries about this response please do not hesitate to contact me. However, if you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled, you have the right to ask for an internal review. 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: Sally Brook Shanahan, Director of Corporate Affairs, King's Mill Hospital, Mansfield Road, Sutton in Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, NG17 4JL or email <a href="mailto:sally.brookshanahan@nhs.net">sally.brookshanahan@nhs.net</a>.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office, who will consider whether we have complied with our obligations under the Act and can require us to remedy any problems. Generally, the Information Commissioner's Office cannot decide unless you have exhausted the internal review procedure. You can find out more about how to do this, and about the Act in general, on the Information Commissioner's Office website at: <a href="https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/official-information/">https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/official-information/</a>.

Complaints to the Information Commissioner's Office should be sent to FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Telephone 0303 1231113, email casework@ico.org.uk.

If you would like this letter or information in an alternative format, for example large print or easy read, or if you need help with communicating with us, for example because you use British Sign Language, please let us know. You can call us on 01623 672232 or email <a href="mailto:sfh-tr.foi.requests@nhs.net">sfh-tr.foi.requests@nhs.net</a>.

Yours faithfully

## **Information Governance Team**

All information we have provided is subject to the provisions of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015. Accordingly, if the information has been made available for re-use under the Open Government Licence (OGL) a request to re-use is not required, but the licence conditions must be met. You must not re-use any previously unreleased information without having the consent from Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Should you wish to re-use previously unreleased information then you must make your request in writing. All requests for re-use will be responded to within 20 working days of receipt.