Outstanding Care, Compassionate People, Healthier Communities

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9th April 2025

King's Mill Hospital Mansfield Road Sutton in Ashfield Nottinghamshire NG17 4JL

Tel: 01623 622515 Join today: www.sfh-tr.nhs.uk

Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000 - Request for Information Reference: Whistleblowing policy

I am writing in response to your request for information under the FOI 2000.

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. Please accept our apologies for the delay.

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FOI Request / Question	Question Response	Is there an exemption?	Exemption	Exemption Details
1. Please answer yes or no. In January 2025 was your Trust conducting any internal review / investigation / report being compiled into a consultant that has had concerns raised about him or her	No			
2. Please answer yes or no. In January 2025 was your Trust conducting any internal review / investigation / report being compiled into a junior doctor that has had concerns raised about him or her	No			
3. Please answer yes or no. In January 2025 was your Trust conducting any internal review / investigation / report being compiled into a nurse that has had concerns raised about him or her	Yes			
4. Please answer yes or no. Has your Trust conducted / started or concluded an internal or external review / investigation of a medical member of staff since January 1st 2023 following a whistleblower or patient raising concerns?	No			
5. Please answer yes or no. If you answered yes to question 4 - did the member of medical staff being investigated continue to have contact with patients whilst the review/investigation/report being written was ongoing?	N/A			

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6. If you answered yes to Question 4, is the member(s) of staff that was investigated / reviewed still working at your Trust following the review conclusions?	N/A			
7. If you answered yes to Question 4, for those reports that have concluded, was the member of staff that was investigated / reviewed found to have fallen short of the standards your Trust would expect from their medical staff?	N/A			
8. If you answered yes to Question 4, how many members of medical staff were reviewed/ investigated following an internal whistleblower raising concerns?	N/A			
9. If you answered yes to Question 4, was the whistleblower also investigated?	N/A			
10. Please answer yes or no. Do you have any experience with a malicious whistleblower? If yes, please share further details if able.	No			
11. Please share any review conclusions / reports / write ups where possible.	N/A			
12. Please share any further details of your whistleblower policy here. How do you manage whistleblowers when they raise concerns?		Yes	Section 21	Section 21 exempts information that is reasonably accessible to you by other means. The information you require is available here: <u>https://www.sfh-tr.nhs.uk/about- us/policies-and-procedures/non-clinical-policies- procedures/human-resources/?id=8559</u>

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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 sally.brookshanahan@nhs.net.

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: <u>https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/official-information/</u>.

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 <u>casework@ico.org.uk</u>.

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 <u>sfh-tr.foi.requests@nhs.net</u>.

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 reuse under the <u>Open Government Licence</u> (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.

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