

Freedom of Information Request**Ref: UHB 17-752**

Date 2 February 2018

By Email

Dear Madam

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trusts response is as follows:

Under the Freedom of Information Act, could you please clarify whether you hold data on the number of patient-on-patient sexual assaults in your Accident and Emergency department, as well as patient-on-staff sexual assaults? If so, could you please release the number of reported assaults to me, divided by year and by category (patient-on-patient and patient-on-staff) in an Excel spreadsheet to send to this email, along with the number of resulting arrests or convictions (if you have this information), for the past five years.

We are unable to provide data for 'patient on staff' or 'patient on patient' allegations of sexual harassment as this information is not recorded on any of our systems in a way that can be readily or easily quantified. To obtain this information would require a manual trawl to obtain and go through patient records which would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. **Section 12** of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

This concludes our response. We trust that you find this helpful, but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if we can be of any further assistance.

If, after that, you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, 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:

Trust Secretary
University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust
Trust Headquarters
Marlborough Street
Bristol
BS1 3NU

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

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

To view the Freedom of Information Act in full please click [here](#).

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted signature]