

FOI REF: 23/638

19th October 2023

Tel: 0300 131 4500
Website: www.esht.nhs.uk

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

I am responding to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. The answers to your specific questions are as follows:

- 1. How many individual cases regarding disclosures made under the Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998 and/or whistleblowers have you fought at employment tribunals since 2015? Please include a year by year breakdown.**

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

- 2. How much has been spent on external lawyers and legal advice for Employment Tribunal Litigation pertaining to public interest disclosures in the past five years? Please include a year by year breakdown.**

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
0	0	0	0	0

- 3. Please can you include the name(s) of the law firm(s) and barristers involved and itemise how much was spent on each?**

None used for public disclosure in last 5 years.

- 4. How many ongoing cases are there pertaining to the above and in which year did they start?**

None.

- 5. What is the longest ongoing case relating to any of the above and what has been the cost of this to date?**

None used for public disclosure in last 5 years.

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6. How many 'guardians' has the trust employed each year since 2015 to date? Please provide a breakdown for each.

The Trust employed 1 Speak Up Guardian in December 2016 on a full-time basis of 37.5 hours per week. In 2020 that position was split into a job share with 1 member of staff working 3 days a week and a second member of staff working 2 days a week. We currently have 2 Guardians who cover a whole time equivalent 37.5 hours post.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Should you be dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Please write to the Freedom of Information Department (esh-tr.foi@nhs.net), quoting the above reference, within 40 working days. The Trust is not obliged to accept an internal review after this date.

Should you still be dissatisfied with your FOI request, you have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner at the following address:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely

Linda Thornhill (Mrs)
Corporate Governance Manager
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