

FOI REF: 24/460

12<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Eastbourne District General Hospital  
Kings Drive  
Eastbourne  
East Sussex  
BN21 2UD

Tel: 0300 131 4500  
Website: [www.esht.nhs.uk](http://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 sexual safety incidents has the trust recorded where the alleged victim was a patient aged 60 or over and the alleged perpetrator was a staff member (including agency staff)?**

Please provide figures for:

- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| a. | April 2021 to the end of March 2024 (total) | 3  |
| b. | 2021-22                                     | 1  |
| c. | 2022-23                                     | 1 ASC care investigated a further 3, but concluded no incident took place. |
| d. | 2023-24                                     | 1 ongoing.   |

- 2. Do you have a Sexual Safety policy in place that covers assaults on patients by staff?**

We have a staff allegations policy but currently not specifically sexual safety. The sexual charter is in progress.

- 3. Does the policy also explicitly address the sexual abuse of older people?**

No.

- 4. Have staff received training on dealing with sexual abuse against people with dementia?**

Staff receive safeguarding training and domestic abuse training is available, but not specifically sexual abuse.

- 5. What training have staff received on dealing with sexual abuse against people with dementia?**

Sexual harm is discussed in mandatory Safeguarding training.

Cont.../

6. Is this training mandatory for staff dealing with patients with dementia?

Safeguarding training is mandatory for staff, domestic abuse in the elderly population is discussed within this.

7. If your hospital has incidents recorded, please provide more information:

**Sex of victims**

- a. No. Male No male victims
- b. No. Female
- c. No. Other

8. Sex of alleged perpetrator

- a. No. Male
- b. No. Female
- c. No. Other

9. Role(s) of alleged perpetrators

- a. HCA
- b. Nursing Staff
- c. Surgeon
- d. Anaesthetist
- e. Other Doctor

10. Locations of alleged incidents (pls specify number for each incident)

- a. Same Sex Ward of ward cases in 2021-2022 and 2023-2024
- b. Single Sex Ward
- c. Theatre
- d. Public Area
- e. Other - case in 2022-2023 Emergency Department

11. Was incident reported to the police (please specify number for each incident)

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Unknown

12. If not reported, please give reasons for this:

- a. Please indicate if outcome of any police investigations if known:

Not applicable.

**13. Was a referral made to the local Sexual Assault Referral Centre? (please specify number for each incident)**

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Unknown

**14. Was the victim signposted to sexual violence support services (please specify number for each incident)**

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Unknown

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](mailto: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

Freedom of Information Department  
[esh-tr.foi@nhs.net](mailto:esh-tr.foi@nhs.net)