

Sent via email

Email: kmpt.inforaccess@nhs.net

Website: www.kmpt.nhs.uk

Dear [REDACTED]

Request for Information

I write further to your request FOI ID OP185 under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding:-

Sexual Incidents

Your request is set out below:

1. The number of sexual safety incidents (including indecent exposure) reported by patients on in-patient wards through the period Apr 2022 to March 2023?

Q1. Inpatient sexual incidents by incident date	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23
Towards a patient by a patient	6	Fewer than 5	Fewer than 5	5	Fewer than 5	6	7	Fewer than 5	Fewer than 5	Fewer than 5	Fewer than 5	Fewer than 5
Towards a patient by staff	Fewer than 5	Fewer than 5	Fewer than 5	Fewer than 5	Fewer than 5	0	Fewer than 5	0	Fewer than 5	0	Fewer than 5	0
Towards a patient by a visitor/other	0	0	0	0	0	0	Fewer than 5	0	0	0	0	0

We are proud to be smoke free

Trust Chair – Dr Jackie Craissati
Chief Executive – Helen Greatorex

All figures above relate to all incidents recorded ranging from indecent exposure to rape and are recorded under one single category. Reported incidents include allegations made by staff against patients, staff against staff, patients against patients and patients against staff. It also includes allegations that are upheld and those that are not.

The trust is committed to providing all patients and staff with a safe and secure environment and takes any allegations of sexual violence and misconduct very seriously. We are clear that any inappropriate behaviour is unacceptable and will take robust action when needed.

At KMPT we have an Allegations Against People in a Position of Trust policy, a Boundaries policy, and a Freedom to Speak Up policy. These policies enable a culture that safeguards patients and staff – and they are all easily accessible to staff via our intranet.

All staff receive mandatory safeguarding training, which includes training on sexual abuse, and all front-line practitioners must undertake Level 3 safeguarding training; which incorporates how to respond to disclosure of abuse, including sexual abuse and how to respond to allegations.

Due to the low numbers involved in the response to your request I would like to confirm that we are unable to release the information, in full. We are not obliged, under section 40 (2) FOIA to provide information that is personal information of another person if releasing would contravene any of the provisions of the Data Protection Act 2018. In this instance we believe that the figures are significantly low enough that identification of those involved could be made, and would therefore contravene the first Data Protection principle, therefore section 40 (2) is engaged. The terms of this exemption in the freedom of information act mean that we do not have to consider whether or not it would be in the public interest for you to have the information.

2. How many formal sexual safety complaints have been made by patients on in-patient wards through the period Apr 2022-Mar 2023?

There have been fewer than 5 formal sexual safety complaints made by service users on in-patient wards through the period April 2022 – March 2023.

Due to the low numbers involved in the response to your request I would like to confirm that we are unable to release the information, in full. We are not obliged, under section 40 (2) FOIA to provide information that is personal information of another person if releasing would contravene any of the provisions of the Data Protection Act 2018. In this instance we believe that the figures are significantly low enough that identification of those involved could be made, and would therefore contravene the first Data Protection principle, therefore section 40 (2) is engaged. The terms of this exemption in the freedom of information act mean that we do not have to consider whether or not it would be in the public interest for you to have the information.

3. How many breaches of the single sex ward policy have been recorded (patients being placed on mixed wards) through the period Apr 2022-Mar 2023?

Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust (KMPT) has not had any breaches of its single sex wards' policy reported for the time period April 2022 – March 2023.

4. With regards sexual safety, who is the lead on your trust board?

KMPT's lead for sexual safety on our trust board is Andy Cruickshank – Chief Nurse

5. Have you audited the collaborative 'Sexual Safety Standards' (2020) in your Trust and can you provide a copy of the report?

KMPT has completed the collaborative 'sexual safety standards' audit, this was completed by an external auditor. At present the report has not yet been finalised and we are therefore not able to share this with you.

6. How many sexual safety incidents reported across the whole trust services from Apr 2022- March 2023?

Q6. Trust wide Sexual Incidents by Incident Date	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23
Sexual (including indecent exposure) towards a Patient by a Patient	7	Fewer than 5	Fewer than 5	5	Fewer than 5	6	7	Fewer than 5	Fewer than 5	Fewer than 5	5	Fewer than 5
Sexual (including indecent exposure) towards a Patient by Staff	Fewer than 5	Fewer than 5	Fewer than 5	Fewer than 5	Fewer than 5	0	Fewer than 5	0	Fewer than 5	0	Fewer than 5	0
Sexual (including indecent exposure) towards a Patient by a Visitor/Other	0	0	Fewer than 5	Fewer than 5	Fewer than 5	0	Fewer than 5	0	0	Fewer than 5	Fewer than 5	1

All figures above relate to all incidents recorded ranging from indecent exposure to rape and are recorded under one single category. Reported incidents include allegations made by staff against patients, staff against staff, patients against patients and patients against staff. It also includes allegations that are upheld and those that are not.

I confirm that the information above completes your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I am also pleased to confirm that no charge will be made for this request.

If you have any questions or concerns or are unhappy with the response provided or the service you have received you can write to the Head of Information Governance at the address on top of this letter. If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision.

Yours Sincerely

On Behalf of
The Information Governance Department