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Foundation Trust Office: 01325 74 3625
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Request for Information Reference: 05.23.13

FOI Direct line: 01325 743700
Email: cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net

Email only

19th May 2023

Dear

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 4th May 2023 in relation to County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (the Trust). Your request has been processed under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and I am now able to provide you with a response.

Your request was in relation to Mental Health Guidelines and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

I would like to request the following information:

- 1. Do A&E and mental health specialist staff follow the SHARE guidance regarding CONSENT, CONFIDENTIALITY & INFORMATION SHARING IN MENTAL HEALTHCARE & SUICIDE PREVENTION?**
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1013010/zero-suicide-alliance-share.pdf

No

- 2. If not, what guidance or protocol do you follow regarding vulnerable patients?**

The IT system has a set protocol to determine high or low risk and takes staff through a set process but this does not aid decision making about disclosure of personal information of the patient. Staff follow professional regulatory regulations and do not disclose information without consent unless in the professional judgement it was felt paramount to assist the person or if

safeguarding children issues etc. were a concern, always only providing the minimum of information. If the person is unable to respond minimal information would be provided, i.e. where their relative was (i.e. ED) and that they were unwell.

3. If so, do you provide training on this guidance? Is this training mandatory?

Not Applicable

4. In the last year, or six months should this exceed the cost limit, how many times was this protocol enacted? Essentially, I would like to know how many times did your NHS trust shares information about somebody being at risk of suicide with another agency, including police, councils, social workers.

Not applicable as this protocol is not currently used.

In line with the Information Commissioner's directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log on the Trust's website. However please be assured that we anonymise all responses prior to adding them to the disclosure log.

I hope that this response has provided you with the information you had requested. If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone or in writing. If however, you are dissatisfied with the way in which your request has been handled and would like an internal review, you will need to contact me in writing at the above address or via cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.

If you remain dissatisfied with our response following an internal review you have the right to appeal to The Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. More information is available on their website; www.ico.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

Corporate Records and Freedom of Information Facilitator