

05 November 2024

## Adult Safeguarding LASP Annual Report & Muckamore Abbey Hospital Allegations of Abuse Including Killead Ward

**Request 1- I would like to request information relating to the Belfast Trust 2018 Adult Safeguarding LASP annual report.**

**Send me a copy of the following information that is contained in the report.**

**(i) Anonymised list of all adult safeguarding referrals commenced in nursing homes from 1/3/17 to 28/2/19**

Please find the table below with the anonymised list of all adult safeguarding referrals commenced in nursing homes from 1/3/17 to 28/2/19.

The table contains information from Belfast Health & Social Care Trust which includes the Programmes of Care for Older People's Services, Physical and Sensory Disability, Mental Health Services, and Intellectual Disability.

From 01/03/2017 to 28/02/2019			
By Month	Number of referrals	By Month	Number of referrals
March 2017	6	March 2018	14
April	<5	April	10
May	5	May	9
June	7	June	20
July	9	July	31
August	10	August	26
September	17	September	12
October	8	October	8
November	12	November	17
December	11	December	10
January 2018	6	January 2019	12
February	7	February	9

Please note we are unable to provide the information broken down by any further detail, we consider that individuals could be identified and also where there are low numbers of <5, this would reduce numbers to discoverable limits and disclosure of this information would breach the first data protection principle, which relates to the fair and lawful processing of personal data. Therefore, we have

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concluded that this information is exempt from disclosure under FOI Act Section 40(2) Personal Information relating to a third party, of the FOI Act.

This information is also exempt under Section S38 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 which relates to Health and Safety. Further breakdown of information would reduce numbers to discoverable limits, this has potential to make individuals identifiable. This is to protect individuals from being targeted and not to leave them exposed to harassment.

**(ii) All records held in relation to Adult safeguarding workshop facilitated by Margaret flynn 2018/2019**

This information is exempt from release under Section 31 of the FOI legislation which relates to law enforcement.

The Muckamore Abbey Hospital Public Inquiry is a statutory inquiry established under the Inquiries Act 2005, to examine the issue of abuse of patients at Muckamore Abbey Hospital (MAH) and to determine why the abuse happened and the range of circumstances that allowed it to happen. The purpose of the Inquiry is to ensure that such abuse does not occur again at MAH or any other institution in Northern Ireland which provides similar services.

Section 31 is a qualified exemption. That is, it is subject to the public interest test. As the information requested will be considered by the MAH Inquiry, prejudice would be caused by placing the information you have requested into the public domain at this time, and it would not be in the public interest to do so.

You can read more about Section 31 here:

[Law enforcement - section 31 | ICO](#)

A public interest has been conducted and the outcome is that it would not be in the public interest to provide the information requested.

In reaching this decision to withhold the information requested, the Trust has considered fully its commitment to ensuring openness and transparency, where reasonably practicable, in all its activities.

**(iii) Level 3 referrals- Provide a copy of the policy or the procedure that refers to level 3 referrals.**

Please find attached BHSCT Adult-safeguarding policy and procedure document

**(iv) Level 3 Adult Protection Investigations - Provide a copy of the policy or the procedure that refers to level 3 Adult Protection Investigations.**

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Please find attached Adult safeguarding policy 2015 and Adult safeguarding operational procedures 2016

**Request 2-- I would like to request information relating to Muckamore Abbey Hospital.**

**(i) How many allegations of abuse of vulnerable adults at all wards in 2012 - 2017  
(ii) How many allegations of abuse of vulnerable adults substantiated in all wards in 2012-2017**

This information is exempt from release under Section 31 of the FOI legislation which relates to law enforcement.

As response for **Request 1 part (ii)**

**Request 3 - The January 2014 RQIA report for Killead says there was 86 substantiated allegations of abuse 2013-2014.**

**The November 2014 RQIA report for Killead says inspectors were provided with an overview of 144 substantiated allegations of abuse.**

**Provide all records in relation to the actions taken by the Belfast Trust Directors and Board in relation to the hundreds of substantiated allegations of abuse at Killead ward in 2013-2014.**

This information is exempt from release under Section 31 of the FOI legislation which relates to law enforcement.

As response for **Request 1 part (ii)**