

06 November 2024

Allegations & Abuse at Muckamore Abbey Hospital Including Correspondence between CEO and RQIA

1- I would like to receive a copy of every letter or email sent by or received by the Responsible Individual (RI) (Chief Executive) of Belfast Trust to the RQIA in respect of Muckamore Abbey Hospital in the following scenarios

- a RQIA serious concern meeting is to take place.**
- Inviting the RI to a serious concerns meeting.**
- informing the RI of the recommendations or actions taken at a serious concerns meeting.**

Time period 2010-2024

I am aware that there has been only less than 20 serious concerns meetings.

2- I would also like to know how many allegations of abuse at every ward at Muckamore from 2012-2017?

If this information has been provided to the Muckamore Abbey Hospital Public Inquiry then provide a link.

3- I would also like to know how many substantiated allegations of abuse at every ward at Muckamore from 2012-217?

If this information has been provided to the Muckamore Abbey Hospital Public Inquiry then provide a link.

4- How many Adverse Incidents at Muckamore 2012-2017?

5- How many Serious Adverse Incidents at Muckamore 2012-2017?

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

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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. The reference to “investigation” in the case of this particular FOI is to the MAH Inquiry (for questions 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5) and the PSNI Operation Turnstone (for questions 2 and 3).

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.