

FOI 0141/2023 Response

1. How many breaches of the single sex ward policy have been recorded (patients being placed on a mixed ward) in each of the following years: 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22,2022-23

In line with the NHS England's national definition of mixed sex accommodation there have been no mixed sex breaches.

2. How many mixed sex communal areas and mixed sex wards are in operation at the trust?

There are 8 wards with mixed sex communal areas.

There are NIL (0) mixed sex wards.

3. How many sexual assaults and incidents of rape have been recorded on a mixed sex ward and separately mixed sex communal areas for the following years: 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22,2022-23 (if possible, please differentiate between male and female victims)

The Trust has captured 16 sexual assault incidents.

Please note:

- The number of sexual assault incidents (including allegations) are reported between 2019 -2023 (financial years starting 1st April and ending 31st March) for patients under the care of a ward which has a mixed-sex communal area.
- Incidents of rape are not categorised separately and will be included in the figure above, as well incidents that took place outside of Trust premises.
- The data relates to incidents that have taken place in wards and their associated communal areas; we are unable to segregate the data.
- The victims will be pertaining to both staff and patients.
- The Trust is unable to provide the data brokendown to each financial year.

This is because the requested information pertains to a small number of incidents, that if disclosed could lead to the identification of those involved and would therefore be likely to put their physical and mental health safety at risk.

The Trust therefore, rely on exemption Section 38 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to deny this aspect of your request

4. **How many incidents of sexual assault and or rape have been recorded in relation to female patients in the following years: 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22,2022-23**

The Trust has captured 58 sexual assault incidents.

Please note:

- The number of sexual assault incidents (including allegations) are reported between 2019 -2023 (financial years starting 1st April and ending 31st March) where the victim was a female patient, incidents are also pertaining to both community and in-patients.
- Incidents of rape are not categorised separately and will be included in the figure above.
- The Trust is unable to provide the data broken down to each financial year.

This is because the requested information pertains to a small number of incidents, that if disclosed could lead to the identification of those involved and would therefore be likely to put their physical and mental health safety at risk.

The Trust therefore, rely on exemption Section 38 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to deny this aspect of your request

5. How many reports have been made to the police in relation to the sexual assault and or rape of female patients in the following years: 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22,2022-23

The Trust's incident reporting system does not record reports made to the police.

Clarification: A breach of the single sex ward policy is defined by NHs England here pages 4-6 https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2021/05/NEW-Delivering_same_sex_accommodation_sep2019.pdf

What is a mixed-sex accommodation breach? This description of a mixed-sex accommodation breach refers to all patients in sleeping accommodation who have been admitted to hospital. • A breach occurs at the point a patient is admitted to mixed-sex accommodation outside the guidance. • Patients should not normally have to share sleeping accommodation with members of the opposite sex. • Patients should not have to share toilet or bathroom facilities with members of the opposite sex. • Patients should not have to walk through an area occupied by patients of the opposite sex to reach toilets or bathrooms; this excludes corridors. • Women-only day rooms should be provided in mental health inpatient units.