



Dear Dr Minh

I refer to our acknowledgement on 6/8/20 in respect of your request for information under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. We are able to provide the following information:

Information requested	Trust response
1. How many referrals has the trust made to the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)	Our Trust refers employees to the HCPC according to Trust Policy and processes; usually at the conclusion of a formal process when the Trust has sufficient evidence to make that decision. It is managed on an individual basis, and as such, we do not hold a central record for referrals. To therefore collate this information, we would need to review over 2,000 individual electronic personnel files, which is not feasible to achieve within the Cost/Time limit of the FOI Act (approx. 18 hours). We therefore are engaging Section 12 of the FOI Act (Request Exceeds Appropriate Limit). Staff can also self-refer to the HCPC where this is appropriate; clinicians have a professional responsibility to inform the HCPC of specific circumstances (as outlined on the HCPC website via the self-referral toolkit).
2. Can the trust please provide a broad breakdown of the reasons for these referrals	See response to Question 1.
3. Can the trust please provide a broad breakdown of the outcomes of these referrals	See response to Question 1.

Please note that, under the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations, if you wish to publish or otherwise use this information besides for your own means, you will need to seek our permission to do so.

Please feel free to contact me if you require further clarification of the information provided, or to discuss any aspect of the way in which we have responded to your request. However, if you are dissatisfied with our response, you also have the right to make use of the following complaints procedures:

In the first instance you may write to the Chief Executive of this Trust

Mr William Warrender
South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust
Abbey Court
Eagle Way
Exeter EX2 7HY

Mr Warrender will then either make arrangements for your complaint to be reviewed and for the outcome to be communicated to you, or will convene a panel of Trust Directors to consider an appeal against a decision to withhold information.

If you are unhappy with the response to your complaint, or findings of the Panel, you can contact the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire. SK9 5AF

Tel: 01625 545 700
Fax: 01625 524 510

Kind regards

Clare Lunk | Assistant Information Governance Manager
South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust



**South Western
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