



Ref: 0680

Request:

Received: 14/04/2010

Dear FOI Officer,

Please disclose under the FOI Act:

Copies of all Adverse Incident Reports for each of the years 2007, 2008 and 2009.

If it is necessary for any reason to redact any part of the document, please only redact the relevant part (explaining the legal grounds on which this is done) and send me the rest of the document.

Many thanks



Response:

Responded: 19/04/2010

Dear

Thank you for your request for information, placed under the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

I am assuming that you are referring to Serious Untoward Incidents (SUI) - see

<http://www.london.nhs.uk/publications/tools-and-resources/serious-untoward-incident-sui-reporting-guidance>

<http://www.nrls.npsa.nhs.uk/report-a-patient-safety-incident/patient-safety-direct>

rather than the number of incidents reported under our internal and external governance procedures, which would amount to many thousands over the period you are interested in.

The Trust has recently reviewed its SUI policy and practice to bring this in line with NHS London and NPSA requirements. Part of this review additionally involves an intention to publish anonymised versions of SUI reports, where the agreement of the parties concerned can be achieved and where other considerations, for example Court reporting restrictions, do not inhibit this. This is to further learning across the emergency care and health and social care economy and realises our commitment to openness and transparency. Both our policy and practice will be published after formal adoption by the Trust Board. The reports will similarly be added over a period following this, see our 'learning pages' and links from

http://www.londonambulance.nhs.uk/about_us/what_we_do/making_your_experiences_count/patient_experiences_department.aspx

It follows that relying on S22 FOIA, your request for access is refused by the Trust.

As far as the public interest The Trust takes the view that it is a part of the effective conduct of public affairs that the general publication of information is a conveniently planned and managed activity within the reasonable control of public authorities. We therefore consider it appropriate that the Trust is enabled sufficient time to undertake the work required to publish the material.

I am sorry to provide with what I imagine will be a disappointing response. I am however obliged to advise you that if you are dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your request you have a right to complain to the Trust and should



set out your concerns to Mr Peter Suter, Director of Information Management & Technology, London Ambulance Service NHS Trust, 220 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8SD. If you then still remain dissatisfied, you have a right under Section 50 of the FOIA to seek a determination from the Information Commissioner on whether the Act has been properly applied by the Trust. For more information, please see www.ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely

Gary Bassett
Head of Patient Experiences
London Ambulance Service NHS Trust