

## Patient safety partners

---

Reference Number: RDF2399-24

Date of Response: 08/04/24

Further to your Freedom of Information Act request, please find the Trust's response(s) below:

1 *Copies of all and any records, internal/external correspondence etc., relating to the role of patient safety partners within RDUH.*

Answer:

The Trust has considered your request. The Trust holds the information you are requesting. However, due to the breadth of the question, we will be unable to provide the information requested.

To carry out this work would exceed the appropriate cost limit as set out in Section 12 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is therefore exempt.

The role of patient safety partner was first introduced in the NHS Patient Safety Strategy 2019.

In the intervening years there has been a huge amount of internal and external correspondence, meetings and reports relevant to this request.

To identify all records would require the following:

- reviewing individual minutes of numerous Trust Committees and Sub-groups for five years – these would require a line-by-line review and anonymisation / redaction of personal identifiable information.
- Reviewing e-mail contacts and discussions of all staff working with the Trusts patient safety, patient experience, senior leadership group— these would require a line-by-line review and anonymisation / redaction of personal identifiable information.
- Reviewing contacts on discussion forums / NHS Futures and the NHS Patient safety network – these may require a line-by-line review and anonymisation / redaction of personal identifiable information dependant on the forum.
- Individually contacting ex-staff who may have been involved in discussions, correspondence, and reports.
- Ensuring any and all documents would require significant multi-agency to secure records which are not held by Royal Devon, but which the Trust may have party to external reports and forums. — these would require a line-by-line review and anonymisation / redaction of personal identifiable information.

All of the above would be contained in a variety of media, which may not be available to locate in a single electronic or paper system. This would be a very challenging undertaking, and it would not be reasonable for the Trust to undertake, and it would be completely unachievable within 18 hours.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 Section 12 (1) and defined in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004, a public authority is not obliged to comply with a request for information if it estimates that the cost of complying would exceed the appropriate limit. The limit of £450 represents the estimated cost of one person spending two and a half days in determining whether the Trust holds the information, locating, retrieving, and extracting that information.