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11th May 2022

Our reference: FOI DA4150

I am responding to your request for information received **23rd March 2022**. I am sorry for the delay in responding to your request. This has been treated as a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am now enclosing a response which is attached to the end of this letter. Please do not hesitate to contact me on the contact details above if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,



Lara Cousens
Information Governance Manager – Information Rights

If you are dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your FOIA request then you should contact us and we will arrange for an internal review of this decision.

If you remain dissatisfied with the decision following our response to your complaint, you may write to the Information Commissioner for a decision under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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

Tel: 0303 123 1113
Web: www.ico.org.uk

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Interim Chair: Eileen Taylor

Request:

Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC)

Question 1: When sexual abuse is disclosed (at any point in assessment/treatment) is there a local policy or a standard way in which this should be recorded (e.g., description within case notes)?

- a. Do these policies refer to sexual abuse that occurs online (e.g., social media, internet contact made, sharing images)?

Question 2: List all assessment tools that make references to a patient's online life (i.e., assessment mentioning young people engaging with social media, frequency of use of the internet)

- b. Indicate if assessment tools ask about:
- i. Online child sexual exploitation (colloquially referred to as 'online grooming') Y/N
 - ii. Youth-produced sexual image
 1. Sextortion Y/N
 2. Non-consensual sexual images Y/N
 - iii. Live streaming Y/N
 - iv. Abuse through production, dissemination, or possession of child sexual abuse material (videos or images) Y/N

Question 3: What support and interventions do you offer to a service user who has experienced technology-assisted sexual abuse?

- c. Is the support or intervention offered specific to technology-facilitated sexual abuse?

Question 4: Is training provided to staff on online harms and the impact of technology-assisted sexual abuse young people?

- d. If yes, what does the training cover?

Answer: Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled—
(a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and
(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to them.

East London NHS Foundation Trust does not have a SARC service and therefore cannot answer this question.

Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)

Question 5: Are there policies or a standard way to record technology-assisted sexual abuse when it is disclosed (at any point in assessment/treatment)?

- a. If yes, please list the policies.

Question 6: Are there assessment methods that are used to assess for technology-assisted sexual abuse?



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- a. **If yes, list the assessment methods that reference the following:**
 - i. **Online child sexual exploitation (colloquially referred to as 'online grooming')**
 - ii. **Youth-produced sexual image**
 1. **Sextortion**
 2. **Non-consensual sexual images**
 - iii. **Live streaming**
 - iv. **Abuse through production, dissemination, or possession of child sexual abuse material (videos or images)**

Question 7: What support and interventions do you offer to a service user who has experienced technology-assisted sexual abuse?

- a. **Do these support or interventions involve referral to mental health services?**
 - i. **If yes, are these mental health services located outside or within the NHS system?**

Answer: Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled—
 (a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and
 (b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to them.

London NHS Foundation Trust does not record sexual abuse as specifically technology assisted and therefore cannot answer this question.

Question 8: Is training provided to staff on online harms and the impact of technology-assisted sexual abuse young people?

- a. **If yes, what does the training cover?**

Answer: All ELFT staff are mapped to competencies appropriate for their role as outlined in Safeguarding Children and Young People: Roles and Competencies for Healthcare Staff. 4th Edition: January 2019 (The Intercollegiate Document). A training needs analysis has been undertaken in collaboration with the learning and development team to ensure the mapping of staffing groups is appropriate. How this may cover online harm and technologically assisted sexual abuse is detailed below:

All staff receive level 1 training which covers:

- Knowledge of potential indicators of child maltreatment in its different forms – physical, emotional and sexual abuse, and neglect, grooming and exploitation to support and/or commit acts of terrorism (known as radicalisation)
- Awareness of child trafficking, FGM, forced marriage, modern slavery, gang and electronic media abuse, sexual exploitation, county lines (young people involved in organised crime who are coerced to traffic drugs or other illegal items around the country)
- Risks associated with the internet and online social networking



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- To know what action to take if you have concerns, including to whom you should report your concerns and from whom to seek advice

Staff mapped at level 2 training (All non-clinical and clinical staff who have any contact (however small) with children, young people and/or parents/carers or any adult who may pose a risk to children) also receive further training in the following areas:

- To demonstrate an understanding of what constitutes child maltreatment and be able to identify signs of child abuse or neglect
- To be able to act as an effective advocate for the child or young person
- To be able to identify your own professional role, responsibilities, and professional boundaries, and understand those of your colleagues in a multidisciplinary team and in multi-agency setting
- To know how and when to refer to social care if you have identified a safeguarding/child protection concern
- To be aware of the risk factors for grooming and exploitation to support and/or commit acts of terrorism (known as radicalisation) and know who to contact regarding preventive action and supporting those vulnerable young persons who may be at risk of, or are being drawn into, terrorist related activity
- To be able to identify and refer a child suspected of being a victim of trafficking and/or sexual exploitation

Staff mapped at level 3 training (Clinical staff working with children, young people and/or their parents/carers and/or any adult who could pose a risk to children and who could potentially contribute to assessing, planning, intervening and/or evaluating the needs of a child or young person and/or parenting capacity (regardless of whether there have been previously identified child protection/safeguarding concerns or not) also receive further training in the following areas:

- To be able to identify, drawing on professional and clinical expertise, possible signs of sexual, physical, or emotional abuse or neglect including domestic abuse, sexual exploitation, grooming and exploitation to support and/or commit acts of terrorism (known as radicalisation), FGM, modern slavery, gang and electronic media abuse using child and family-focused approach
- To know how to contribute to, and make considered judgements about how to act to safeguard/protect a child or young person, including escalation as part of this process
- To know how to contribute to/formulate and communicate effective management plans for children and young people who have been maltreated within a multidisciplinary approach and related to role
- To know how to appropriately contribute to inter-agency assessments by gathering and sharing information, documenting concerns appropriately for safeguarding/child



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protection and legal purposes, seeking professional guidance
in report writing where required

As well as the training, all staff receive on induction a safeguarding
handbook mapped to level 2 which covers online harm and
technologically assisted sexual abuse.



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