

Information Governance

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05 April 2024

Our reference: FOI DA5263

I am responding to your request for information received 8 March 2024. 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,

Information Rights Coordinator

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

Please note that the data supplied is not allowed to be re-used and/or published without the explicit consent of East London NHS Foundation Trust. Please contact the signatory to request permission if this is your intention



We promise to work together creatively to: learn 'what matters' to everyone, achieve a better quality of life and continuously improve our services.
We care . We respect . We are inclusive

Interim Chief Executive Officer: Lorraine Sunduza
Chair: Eileen Taylor

Request:

Question 1: Did any professional, currently registered with the NMC, HCPC or GMC from Oxford Health trust act as referee or provide verbal/written references in the interview/hiring process above & if so, how many registered with each regulator?

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 1 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 40 for the FOI Act states:

(2) This exemption covers the personal data of third parties (anyone other than the requester) where complying with the request would breach any of the principles in the UK GDPR.

The information you have requested relates to less than five individuals and has the potential for those individuals to be identified. Both the interviewee and the interviewers are entitled to confidentiality therefore the Trust is unable to provide this information.

Question 2: How many people, struck off by a medical regulator, has ELFT hired in the past five years as employees?

Answer: The Trust has not employed any staff in a medical capacity that have been struck off by the medical regulator. For roles requiring professional registration Trust systems will flag that an individual has been struck off by a medical regulator, meaning that they would fail pre-employment checks and therefore not be hired in a professional capacity.

Question 3: How many people, struck off by a medical register, has ELFT allowed to operate as students within the trust in the past five years?

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 3 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

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 record the information requested. Students are not required to be listed on a professional register as they will not have achieved the necessary qualifications to be listed. The Trust is therefore unable to provide a response.

Question 4: How many people, struck off by a medical regulator, currently work as employees or operate as students within ELFT?

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 4 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

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.*



If staff are working in a role that does not require a professional registration, then this would not be flagged. Staff are asked at the employment stage if they have ever been removed from a professional register in the UK. If an individual ticked yes on their application, then this should trigger a conversation about the suitability of that person for the role. Please note that there is no automatic right to work in an unregistered role. Each application is considered on a case-by-case basis. In some cases, an unregistered role may be suitable for an individual who has been struck off a medical register. In each case the Trust will seek its own assurance on the suitability of an individual.

East London NHS Foundation Trust does not record the information requested and is therefore unable to provide a response.

Students are not required to be listed on a professional register as they will not have achieved the necessary qualifications to be listed. They will therefore not have been struck off.



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