



East London

NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance

Robert Dolan House

9 Alie Street

London

E1 8DE

Email elft.foi@nhs.net

Website: <https://www.elft.nhs.uk>

30 June 2025

Our reference: FOI DA6120

I am responding to your request for information received 24 June 2025. 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

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'what matters' to everyone, achieve a better quality
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Chief Executive Officer: Lorraine Sunduza
Chair: Eileen Taylor

Request: I am currently looking into the available evidence on behaviours of headbanging and non-anchored ligatures within adult inpatient mental health settings.

As part of this review, I am keen to include information on policies, procedures, areas of good practice that may have been developed. Is there anything within your setting that is shareable?

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

Section 38(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

(1) Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to —

(a) endanger the physical or mental health of any individual, or

(b) endanger the safety of any individual.

The Trust has reviewed your request for information and is applying section 38 of the FOI Act. Section 38 exemption applies to health and safety. As this is a qualified exemption, the public interest in withholding the information should outweigh the public interest in disclosure.

The Trust has applied the public interest test and, in this instance, believes disclosure of this information may have a detrimental effect on the physical or mental health of individuals. Revealing and publishing such information would describe details of ligature points, ligatures, or detail of any other means of self-harm; as a result has the potential to cause a detrimental effect on the physical or mental health of individuals.



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