

**Ref No. SG9108**

**Date: 10 February 2020**

**REQUEST:** Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please can you provide separate information for each of your hospitals/facilities providing mental health inpatient services:

1. Is the hospital smokefree (i.e. does not allow smoking anywhere on hospital grounds) and, if yes, what date did this happen?
2. How many patients/service users have absconded/gone AWOL while on leave for each separate calendar year since 2000 (or for each year you have information)?
3. Of these, how many patients/service users have absconded/gone AWOL while on leave to have a cigarette or where the report mentions cigarettes for each separate calendar year since 2000 (or for each year you have information)?
4. When looking at all incident reports (not just those in which a patient absconded), how many incident reports mentioned "smoking", "smoke", "cigarette" or "lighter" a) in 2017, b) in 2018 and c) in 2019?

**OUR RESPONSE:** From our preliminary assessment, we estimate that compliance with your request would exceed the appropriate costs limit under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, currently £450, as we do not centrally record the information being requested at questions 2 and 3 above. However, rather than refusing your request in its entirety, we are providing information where it is reasonable to do so.

1. Since 1 October 2016, Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust has been completely smokefree, with an inclusive ban in all Trust buildings, grounds and vehicles.
2. & 3. We have interpreted your request as follows: How many patients/service users have absconded or gone AWOL *during the time they were on leave*. Unfortunately, we do not record this information centrally and would need to review every missing patient incident in order to locate and retrieve it.
4. A) 235  
B) 348  
C) 299

**Please note:** These words are regularly mentioned in incident reports for multiple reasons that are unrelated. For example, a patient may become clinically unwell and as part of the background to the incident the nurse may write '*patient had been out for a cigarette, returned, eaten a meal and at 8.00pm reported feeling unwell*', or as part of medical history: '*no smoking history, patient does not smoke, ex-smoker*'. We are able to provide the number of incidents that hold these words but not in the context in which they are used.