

FOI Request Response information

FOI request reference:	2016/113
Date request received:	05/05/2016
Date request responded to:	20/05/2016
Category:	Corporate
Tags:	Information Sharing Protocol, social workers, sharing information, mental health, clinical records, consent

Request Detail:

Information Sharing Protocol and info re sharing with LCC Social Workers

Please could you send me a policy document on your information sharing protocol. I also wanted to enquire where Lancashire County Council social workers had the right to ask for clinical records from one of your mental health teams without seeking patient or relative consent?

Response Detail:

In response to your recent FOI request I have attached a copy of the Trust policy on sharing information with external agencies. With regard to your specific question about sharing information with other agencies, please see the response below to that enquiry.

Some Trust services are provided by an integrated team and will include both Lancashire Care Mental Health staff and Local Authorities Social Care staff. Under this arrangement the processing and sharing of information is done for Health Care purposes. This partnership is also formally supported by the 'Duty of Care' governed by Section 75 of the Health and Social Care Act.

When information is shared the Trust has considered the sharing of personal information in the best interest of the data subject in order to ensure that they receive the most appropriate care and treatment. Only the minimum information will be shared that is necessary to support care and treatment. On this basis it is therefore lawful under the Data Protection Act 1998 to share personal information without the need for consent.

If anyone who's information we hold, does not wish for all, or some of their information to be shared with an organisation involved in the delivery of their care package, they need to advise someone in their care team of their wishes so that this can be recorded and respected. Continuation of such a decision will be reviewed regularly with them.

A link has been provided below to a Trust booklet called ' Sharing your Information With Us'. The booklet gives more information about what and why we collect data, what it is used for, whom we may share it with and what to do if someone wishes to withdraw consent for information to be shared.

<https://www.lancashirecare.nhs.uk/media/FOI/Leaflets/Sharing%20Information%20With%20Us.pdf>

Please click on the paperclip symbol, on the left hand toolbar, to see additional attachments.