

## **FOI 081 2024 Response**

### **Request**

To whom it may concern,

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I am writing to you to solicit the following information concerning the monitoring system in hospital bedrooms:

1. Have cameras or surveillance equipments been installed in patients' bedrooms in the hospital(s)?

If the response to the aforementioned question is affirmative,

2. Please specify the hospital(s) which have the monitoring system and cameras in patients' bedrooms.

3. What is the duration for which the footage captured by the bedroom cameras is stored? At what point is the footage scheduled for deletion?

4. Has there been any occurrence of unauthorised access to or release of camera footage? Or has there been any accidental leakage?

5. Have patients formally requested the deletion of camera footage relating to them? If so, have their requests been acted upon?

6. Does the camera footage encompass the recording of all potential activities conducted by patients in hospital bedrooms (such as genital exercise or automanipulation)?

7. What measures have been implemented to protect the privacy and dignity of patients, and to prevent any possible leakage of recorded footage?

8. Do you have a plan to remove cameras from patients' bedrooms?

Please be advised that you are legally obligated to respond to my enquiries within 20 days. Failure to provide the true and complete information may result in a formal complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office, as well as the legal litigations. I look forward to your prompt response.

### **Response**

The Trust do not have surveillance equipment's installed in patients' bedrooms.

The only exception where a CCTV system would be located within a clinical area is our seclusion suites.

Please note that due to the sensitivity of these areas, as well as risks of intrusion to the privacy and dignity of service users within these suites, these do not record and are completely standalone.

This therefore means that they cannot be accessed by anyone other than duty staff within the seclusion suite.

The sole purpose of these standalone systems is to allow observing staff to safely see within the seclusion rooms in instances where the service user has obscured the door vision panels.