



Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance Department

Wrightington Hospital

Hall Lane

Appley Bridge

Wigan

WN6 9EP

Tel: 01257 256284

Email: foi@wwl.nhs.uk

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Ref: FOI2020/7031

Date Received: 26th August 2020

Response Due: 24th September 2020

Date: 9th September 2020

Dear Sir/Madam

INFORMATION REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

You asked:

I am getting in touch with regards to black, Asian, and minority ethnic (BAME) group's staff networks within the NHS. I have a few simple questions that I would like to ask under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

1. Does the trust have a BAME staff network or something similarly named?

WWL enabled a virtual network for BAME staff some years ago, but this is recognised as needing to be relaunched and refreshed. We have run focus groups, facilitated by the ED&I lead and staff engagement team for a number of years. As a result of Covid, we have moved our listening events into virtual format. We recently ran a BAME forum (July 2020) and as part of this forum is establishing a wider staff network specifically for BAME staff. We currently have an IM&T Project Manager on the Race Equality Change Agent Programme and as part of her project has agreed to lead, set up and develop a staff network group. This is currently in progress and support is being given by Human Resources and Organisational Development.

2. If the answer to Q1 is yes, who are its leaders (e.g., chair, co-chair)?

There is no one currently in those positions as the network is not set up yet.

3. In addition to Q2, does it have a sponsor if yes please provide the name?

Dr Sanjay Arya, Consultant Cardiologist / Medical Director

4. Could you please provide the contact details for the leaders of the trust's BAME staff network (or similarly named)? This should be, at minimum, an email address.

As the network is currently being formulated please direct any enquiries to Joanne O'Brien – Senior HR Business Partner in the first instance.

The Trust does not routinely give out email addresses and direct telephone numbers of staff members as a large number of unsolicited emails/telephone calls could cause disruption to work by blocking email accounts/telephone lines and thereby preventing true work-related emails/calls from being delivered. However any of the above staff can be contacted via main switchboard on 01942 244000:

I trust that this information is helpful to you, however if you are not entirely satisfied with this response please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department on 01257 488271. If we do not hear from you within 28 days we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alison Balson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "A" that loops around the first "B".

Alison Balson
Director of Workforce

PLEASE NOTE:

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Wrightington Hospital, Hall Lane, Appley Bridge, Wigan, WN6 9EP

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at: