

Ref no: 296140121  
From: Public  
Date: 14/01/21  
Subject: Handling of Whistleblowing Concerns During Covid:19 Pandemic

## REQUEST

FOI Request: Handling of Whistleblowing Concerns During Covid:19  
Pandemic

To whom it may concern,

1. Please provide the total number of whistleblowing concerns received between 01/03/2019 and 31/08/2019 by St Helens and Knowsley Hospitals NHS Trust
2. Please provide the total number of whistleblowing concerns received by St Helens and Knowsley Hospitals NHS Trust 01/03/2020 and 31/08/2020
3. Please provide the following information for each whistleblowing concern received by St Helens and Knowsley Hospitals NHS Trust between 01/03/2020 and 31/08/2020:
  - a. A brief summary of the whistleblowing concern.
  - b. Whether any action was taken following the concern, and if so, a brief description of the action taken.

c. If the person provided the information anonymously (i.e. they did not provide you with their name and/or contact details) please indicate this.

## RESPONSE

“Whistleblowing” is not a term which features in St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust policy on raising concerns.

Details of concerns brought to the Trust are done so in confidence. Therefore the Trust holds that this information is exempt under Section 41(1) of the Freedom of Information Act “information provided in confidence”. It is our view that disclosure of this information would constitute an actionable breach of confidence and so disclosure would also be unlawful under the Act. In these circumstances, Section 41 of the Freedom of Information Act confers an absolute exemption on disclosure and there is no public interest test to apply.