The Tavistock and Portman NHS
NHS Foundation Trust

Freedom of Information Act 2000 disclosure log entry

Reference

19-20223

Date sent

17/10/19

Subject

Internal Review Longitudinal Outcomes Study (previous enquiry 19-20196 refers)

Details of enquiry

Q1. Would you kindly share with me the REC application form for this study?
Q2. Would you kindly share with me a list of all supporting documentation that accompanied the REC application? (If it would be less onerous for you to supply the documents than to compile the list, please do so).
Q3. Would you kindly share with me your application to the NIHR for this study?
Q4. Would you kindly share with me a list of all supporting documentation that accompanied the NIHR application? (If it would be less onerous for you to supply the documents than to compile the list, please do so).
Q5. Would you please describe specifically which evidence is 'shifting'? For the sake of clarity, I am not concerned here with the limited nature of the evidence - which as you say is well-known - but specifically in the suggestion that the evidence is changing or shifting. What evidence did you have in mind when writing this?
Q6. If the following information is contained within the documents requested in Q1 and/or Q3, please disregard the following. But please share with me your assessment that a longitudinal approach is superior to one that incorporated an element of control.

Response Sent

Q1. Would you kindly share with me the REC application form for this study?

Our review concludes that the exemptions under **Section 22 Information intended for future publication and Section 22A Research information** have been appropriately engaged.

In addition, our review concludes that some of the content (for example, analyses and methodology) is commercially sensitive and, therefore, exempt under **Section 43(2) Prejudice to the commercial interests.** Section 43 is a qualified exemption and requires us to carry out the public interest test. Our arguments in this respect are as follows:

Arguments in favour of disclosure

- Promoting openness and transparency on the application process
- Promoting accountability as to how public funds are spent

Arguments in favour of maintaining the exemption

- Potential for the information to be copied and used by third parties

- Disclosure of the information may cause unwarranted reputational damage, which may in turn damage the Trust's commercial interests or that of any party referred to in the application.
- Potential for misinterpretation of the information, which may have an unwarranted impact on the Trust's reputation and affect its commercial interests
- Some research may be undertaken by professional market researchers and disclosure of the information requested may put the Trust at risk of breach of contract.

Q2. Would you kindly share with me a list of all supporting documentation that accompanied the REC application? (If it would be less onerous for you to supply the documents than to compile the list, please do so).

Our review has concluded that s.43(2) is engaged. I can confirm that the above public interest test has encompassed this element of your request.

Q3. Would you kindly share with me your application to the NIHR for this study?

Our review confirms that we do not hold a copy of the application that was submitted.

Our review has noted that reference to the 'Data controller' is not applicable, since this role applies only to personal data.

Q4. Would you kindly share with me a list of all supporting documentation that accompanied the NIHR application? (If it would be less onerous for you to supply the documents than to compile the list, please do so).

Our review confirms that we do not hold the requested information.

Q5. Would you please describe specifically which evidence is 'shifting'? For the sake of clarity, I am not concerned here with the limited nature of the evidence - which as you say is well-known - but specifically in the suggestion that the evidence is changing or shifting. What evidence did you have in mind when writing this?

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