

Freedom of Information Act 2000 disclosure log entry

Reference

20-21002

Date sent

14/05/2020

Subject

GIDS/GIC Talks and Presentations

Details of enquiry

1. The number of talks given by Gender Identity Development Service staff enumerated by month from January 2010 to March 2020.
2. The number of talks given by Gender Identity Clinic staff enumerated by month from January 2010 to March 2020.
3. The most recent presentation and/or notes used by each of the GIDS and GIC staff for both external and internal talks.

Response Sent

For requests #1 and #2: the Trust confirms it does not hold this information. The Trust does not keep a record of talks given by staff at GIDS or the GIC. Many of the staff who worked at the GIC and GIDS between January 2010 to March 2020 no longer work for the organisation so it is not possible to discover the number of talks they gave or when those talks occurred.

For request #3 about recent presentations, the information includes the trainer's own notes. We have considered this request and we are engaging an exemption under Section 43(2) of the FOI act, 'prejudice to commercial interests'. Section 43(2) is a qualified exemption that requires the public authority to carry out a public interest test. We have carried out this test and our considerations are shown below:

Arguments in favour of disclosure:

- transparency in how public funds are spent
- transparency in the quality of presentations and training the Trust provides

Arguments in favour of maintaining the exemption

- disclosure would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of the Trust, since it could affect the Trust's ability to negotiate or compete in the educational or healthcare training sectors
- disclosure could lead to increased costs to publicly funded services
- the information could be reproduced by competitors, which could impact on both the Trust and other organisations providing similar services

We have concluded that the degree to which disclosure could prejudice or harm the commercial interests of the Trust or another party outweighs the public interest in disclosure.