

Freedom of Information Request

Reference Number: EPUT.FOI.21.1815
Date Received: 18th January 2021

Information Requested:

When was CCTV fitted in the Linden Center Chelmsford Essex and where?

Response:

The Trust can confirm that the initial installation of CCTV cameras was in 2002.

The Trust is unable to confirm the location of the cameras, as we consider that this information could endanger the safety of both patients and staff, and compromise the security of Trust premises.

The Trust has considered the Public Interest Test and considers that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure due to the following:

CCTV cameras are operated in accordance with the CCTV Code of Practice. There is signage notifying people in the areas where cameras are in operation. To promote the safety of patients, mental health wards do not have open access in the same way other hospital wards do. Disclosure would put the location of the cameras into the public domain, which would consequently identify where no cameras exist. This would decrease the security of the premises by exposing the vulnerable points, thereby endangering the safety of both patients and staff.

Therefore the Trust is applying Section 38 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Applied Exemption:

Section 38 (Health and Safety):

- (1) Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to—
 - (a) endanger the physical or mental health of any individual, or
 - (b) endanger the safety of any individual.
 - (2) The duty to confirm or deny does not arise if, or to the extent that, compliance with section 1(1)(a) would, or would be likely to, have either of the effects mentioned in subsection (1)
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Publication Scheme:

As part of the Freedom of Information Act all public organisations are required to proactively publish certain classes of information on a Publication Scheme. A publication scheme is a guide to the information that is held by the organisation. EPUT's Publication Scheme is located on its Website at the following link <https://eput.nhs.uk>