



**Kent and Medway**

**NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust**

**Information Governance & Records Management Department**

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Dear [REDACTED],

### **Request for Information**

I write further to your request FOI ID 33329 under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding:-

Ligature Cutters

Your request is set out below:

1. How many sets of cutters do you supply to each ward/area?

**Each ward should have one set of ligature cutters, tuff cut scissors and a Big Fish Knife which are kept in the rescue box and replaced after every use.**

2. Who is responsible for the blades at ward and trust level?

**At ward level the responsible team member is the ward manager. The executive lead is the Chief Nurse.**

3. Do you register each individual blade to each ward via the serial number? Or are they individually issued to staff?

**Ligature cutters are not issued by serial number as they are classed as single use consumables. The ward order supplies to allow replacements to be available on the ward.**

4. Do you have a central store where staff can exchange blades for sharp ones?

**The cutters are single use items, blades are not replaced, the whole unit is replaced after use. The wards will order replacements themselves directly from an external company.**

5. If so, which department is responsible for it?

**N/A**

**We are proud to be smoke free**

Trust Chair – Dr Jackie Craissati  
Chief Executive – Helen Greatorex

I confirm that the information above completes your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I am also pleased to confirm that no charge will be made for this request.

If you have any questions or concerns or are unhappy with the response provided or the service you have received you can write to the Head of Information Governance at the address on top of this letter. If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision.

Yours Sincerely

On Behalf of  
The Information Governance Department