



Kent and Medway
NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust

Information Governance & Records Management Department

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Sent via email

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Dear [REDACTED]

Request for Information

I write further to your request FOI ID 48804 under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding: -

Plastic Bin Liners and Incidents

Your request is set out below:

1a: Are plastic bin liners used on psychiatric inpatient wards run by your Trust?

No

b: If they are not allowed, when were they prohibited?

These items were prohibited from approximately 2020.

c: How many incidents of inpatient self-harm involving plastic bin liners have there been in the last five years (specifically 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 & 2024)?

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d: How many inpatient deaths involving plastic bin liners have there been in the last five years (specifically 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 & 2024)?

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2a: Are other types of plastic bags (i.e. not bin liners) allowed into psychiatric inpatient wards run by your Trust?

No

b: If they are not allowed, when were they prohibited?

2015

We are proud to be smoke free

Trust Chair – Dr Jackie Craissati
Chief Executive – Sheila Stenson

c: How many incidents of inpatient self-harm involving plastic bags (excluding bin liners counted above) have there been in the last five years (specifically 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 & 2024)?

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Plastic bags are not allowed in the wards to ensure the safety of our patients. Our staff are well-informed about the risks, and we have posted signs to remind patients and visitors of this policy. If a plastic bag is found, we will remove it immediately to maintain a safe environment.

d: How many inpatient deaths involving plastic bags (excluding bin liners counted above) have there been in the last five years (specifically 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 & 2024)?

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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