FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

REF: 2026-24
Subject: Best Interest Assessors

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for your email dated **12/01/2026** where you requested information about **Best Interest Assessors.**

The information you requested is enclosed.

Question	Answer
I would like to request the following information: Number of Best Interest Assessors employed by Bolton NHS Foundation Trust	N/A for Bolton NHS Foundation Trust - the Trust do not employ best interest assessors. When a patient requires a best interest assessor to assess them when a DoLS application has been submitted, this is arranged by the local authority.
If no Best Interest Assessors are employed by the NHS Trust, please state how Best Interest Assessments are commissioned when an application is received from a hospital as the 'managing authority' (for example, does the Trust commission independent Best Interest Assessments or are Assessments undertaken by the local authority?)	

If you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact the Freedom of Information Department. It would be helpful to quote the above reference number in any future communication.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to The Chief Executive, Bolton NHS Foundation Trust, The Royal Bolton Hospital, Minerva Road, Farnworth, Bolton. BL4 0JR.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner. Generally the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by Bolton

NHS Foundation Trust. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire. SK9 5AF.

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Yours sincerely,

Information Governance Department

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transforming lives...for a better Bolton