

Ref. No: 0733  
Date: 26/02/24  
Subject: National Policy Update

## REQUEST

Last year, following the verdict in the Lucy Letby trial, NHS England issued this letter ([NHS England – Web Link](#)). In it, leaders say that all organisations providing NHS services are expected to adopt the updated national policy by January 2024 at the latest.

The national Freedom to Speak Up (FTSU) guardian also said all NHS Trusts and Foundation Trust boards have been asked to update their local policy to reflect the new national template by the end of January 2024. By this time, they should have also seen the outputs from using the self-reflection tool and provided at least one progress update.

1. Could you please provide a yes / no answer to whether your Trust has adopted the updated national policy.
  - a. If the answer is yes, could you please provide a copy of your local policy or point to where it is in board papers, also any progress updates / results of self-reflection tools.
  - b. If the answer is no, could you please provide a statement explaining why?

## RESPONSE

St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust became a single legal entity known as Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023, as such parts of the response may be provided in two sections relating to the hospital sites of each of the legacy organisations.

Please find the Trust's updated '*Freedom to Speak Up Policy*' attached.