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**22 Apr, 2026**

[REDACTED]

Dear Sir/Madam

**Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000 - Request for Information Reference:** Hindu Chaplaincy, Prayer Space and Dietary Provision

I am writing in response to your request for information under the FOI 2000.

I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below. Please accept our sincere apologies for the delay.

**Home, Community, Hospital.**

FOI Request / Question	Question Response	Is there an exemption?	Exemption	Exemption Details
<p>1. Chaplaincy Provision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Could you please advise on your Trust's current chaplaincy policy, specifically with reference to Hindu religious and spiritual provision?</li> <li>• Do you currently have Hindu chaplains within your Trust, and if so, how many?</li> <li>• Where there is no provision, we would be happy to explore supporting the Trust by offering trained volunteer Hindu chaplains, in line with NHS governance and safeguarding requirements.</li> </ul>	<p>The Trust doesn't have any Hindu chaplains in the Trust at present but would welcome trained volunteer Hindu chaplains who meet our specification as Honorary Chaplains.</p>			
<p>2. Prayer and Quiet Spaces</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does your Trust provide designated prayer or quiet spaces for Hindu staff and patients?</li> <li>• Where such facilities are not available, we would welcome the opportunity to discuss and explore how we may assist in identifying or supporting appropriate arrangements.</li> </ul>	<p>The Trust has shared prayer and quiet spaces available to staff and patients of all faiths or anyone simply looking for a quiet area.</p> <p>We are always open to exploring what specific facilities different faiths require and looking at how we can provide facilities within our available space.</p>			
<p>3. Dietary Provision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does your Trust currently offer sattvik vegetarian meals suitable for Hindu</li> </ul>	<p>Dietary provision: Medirest do not offer a specific Sattvik diet, but patients may be able to follow the principles of this diet by mixing and matching items we do offer across all our menus.</p>			

<p>patients? • If this is an area for development, we would be pleased to explore and suggest approved suppliers or caterers experienced in providing sattvik meals that meet NHS standards.</p>	<p>For example, Medirest offer a range of vegetarian and plant based meals on our core menu. In addition to this, Asian Vegetarian meals, some of which are plant based too, can be found on our religious, cultural and vegan menu. Medirest can provided patients with the ingredients list for these meals to assess suitability to the Sattvick diet. On request, we can also provide Jain meals which are vegetarian but also do not contain onion, garlic and some other ingredients prohibited in this diet. In addition to hot meals, salads, yoghurts, decaffeinated tea and coffee, fresh fruit are also available on our core menu.</p>			
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I trust this information answers your request. Should you have any further enquiries or queries about this response please do not hesitate to contact me. However, if you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Sally Brook Shanahan, Director of Corporate Affairs, King's Mill Hospital, Mansfield Road, Sutton in Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, NG17 4JL or email [sally.brookshanahan@nhs.net](mailto:sally.brookshanahan@nhs.net).

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office, who will consider whether we have complied with our obligations under the Act and can require us to remedy any problems. Generally, the Information Commissioner's Office cannot decide unless you have exhausted the internal review procedure. You can find out more about how to do this, and about the Act in general, on the Information Commissioner's Office website at: <https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/official-information/>.

Complaints to the Information Commissioner's Office should be sent to FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Telephone 0303 1231113, email [casework@ico.org.uk](mailto:casework@ico.org.uk).

If you would like this letter or information in an alternative format, for example large print or easy read, or if you need help with communicating with us, for example because you use British Sign Language, please let us know. You can call us on 01623 672232 or email [sfh-tr.foi.requests@nhs.net](mailto:sfh-tr.foi.requests@nhs.net).

Yours faithfully

### Information Governance Team

All information we have provided is subject to the provisions of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015. Accordingly, if the information has been made available for re-use under the [Open Government Licence](#) (OGL) a request to re-use is not required, but the licence conditions must be met. You must not re-use any previously unreleased information without having the consent from Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Should you wish to re-use previously unreleased information then you must make your request in writing. All requests for re-use will be responded to within 20 working days of receipt.