



Ref: FOIA Reference 2019/20-104

Royal Stoke University Hospital
Quality, Safety and Compliance Department
Newcastle Road
Stoke-on-Trent
Staffordshire
ST4 6QG

Date: 4th July 2019

Email foi@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 23rd May 2019 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding locum agency doctor spend. I apologise for the delay in responding.

I can neither confirm nor deny whether the information you have requested is held by the Trust in its entirety. This is because the information requested in question 4 is not held centrally, but may be recorded in individual departmental records. In order to confirm whether this information is held we would therefore have to individually access all individual departmental records within the Trust and extract the information where it is present. We therefore estimate that complying with your request is exempt under section 12 of the FOI Act: *cost of compliance is excessive*. The section 12 exemption applies when it is estimated a request will take in excess of 18 hours to complete. We estimate that accessing and reviewing all individual departmental records and then extracting relevant information would take longer than the 18 hours allowed for.

In addition to the section 12 exemption the Trust is also applying section 14 (1) exemption: *oppressive burden on the authority*

Under section 16 of the FOI Act we are required to provide requestors with advice and assistance where possible. We would therefore like to advise you that your request is shortened to just questions that we are able to comply within the 18 hour time frame. In order to avoid delay to your response we have provided this below.

On 18th June 2019 we contacted you via email as were required clarification on what you meant by "long term" for question 3.

On 27th June 2019 you replied via email the following:
'Long term = over 6 months (Placed Within this last financial year)'

As of 1st November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHNM) manages two hospital sites – Royal Stoke University Hospital, and County Hospital (Stafford). Therefore the response below is for the two sites combined from that date where appropriate.

Q1 Please could you provide me a breakdown of the locum agency doctor spend for the last financial year?

Please break this down in to specialty and grades

A1 Please see below:

Specialty	Consultant	Staff / Career Grades	Trainee Grades	Grand Total
Anaesthetics	1,132,702	61,613	129,188	1,323,502
Cardiothoracic Surgery	0	4,000	14,321	18,321
Child Health	239,636	6,276	65,895	311,808
Emergency Medicine	2,244,190	60,635	1,531,111	3,835,937
General Medicine	1,037,668	107,964	1,117,349	2,262,981
General Surgery	228,458	28,608	276,220	533,285
Imaging	261,424	0	0	261,424
Medicine Division Management	53,743	0	262,507	316,251
Neuro-Sciences	239,076	0	319,744	558,820
Obstetrics & Gynaecology	0	50,685	136,551	187,236
Oncology & Haematology	494,652	0	82,529	577,181
Pathology	383,204	0	21,994	405,198
Specialised Medicine	1,182,575	0	324,341	1,506,916
Specialised Surgery	90,898	41,738	194,921	327,557
Trauma	173,638	3,819	847,239	1,024,696
Grand Total	7,761,865	365,338	5,323,910	13,451,113

Q2 Please could you provide me a breakdown of the permanent doctor vacancies across the Trust? Please break this down into specialty and grades

A2 Please see below:

Obstetrics and Gynaecology	Consultant Obstetrician
Gynaecological Oncology	Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist
Oral & Maxillofacial	Oral & Maxillofacial Consultant Surgeon
Upper GI and Urology	Clinical Oncologist - Urology and Upper GI
Gynae, CNS and Thyroid	Clinical Oncologist - Gynae and CNS
Emergency Medicine	Trust Grade ST1/ ST2 level
Respiratory Medicine	Respiratory Consultant - Interstitial Lung Disease
Neuro-Radiology - Intervention	Consultant Neuroradiology
Radiology	Consultant Radiologist with an interest Paediatric Radiology
Emergency Medicine	Consultant in Emergency Medicine

Q3 Please could you confirm how many agency locums are currently in post on long term agency contracts? In the last 6 months and year

A3 None. Direct Engagement only.

Q4 Please could you provide how much the Trust have paid to agencies for introductory fees?

A4 Section 12 and 14 exemption as detailed above

Q5 Please provide details of any overseas recruitment campaigns that the Trust have taken part in for the recruitment of doctors?

A5 We have not taken part in any recruitment campaigns for Medical Recruitment.

*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

UHNM NHS Trust is a public sector body and governed by EU law. FOI requestors should note that any new Trust requirements over the EU threshold will be subject to these regulations and will be advertised for open competition accordingly.

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An anonymised copy of this request can be found on the Trust's disclosure log, please note that all requests can be found at the following link: <http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/aboutus/Statutory-Policies-and-Procedures/Pages/Freedom-of-Information-Disclosure-Log.aspx>

This letter confirms the completion of this request. A log of this request and a copy of this letter will be held by the Trust.

If you have any queries related to the response provided please in the first instance contact my office.

Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and request an assessment of the manner in which the Trust has managed your request.

The Information Commissioner may be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF or via www.ico.org.uk.

If following review of the responses I can be of any further assistance please contact my secretary on 01782 676474.

Yours,



**University Hospitals
of North Midlands**
NHS Trust

Jean Lehnert
Information Governance Manager

