



Ref: FOIA Reference 2019/20-195

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

Date: 10th July 2019

Email foi@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 5th July 2019 (received into our office 8th July) requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding drug fridge failures.

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 tell me in the previous three financial years (2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19) how many times fridges used to cool drugs malfunctioned resulting in loss of pharmaceutical stock.

For each separate incident, please tell me

- a) the value of the drugs lost**
- b) the cost to fix the malfunctioning fridge**
- c) the name and value of the most expensive drug lost.**
- d) Please also provide a copy of the incident report filed following the event.**

A1 The Trust uses an incident management system called “Datix”, incidents regarding fridges going out of range are recorded in this system, however not all of the information you have requested is recorded in the format you are requiring for all these years and would therefore require us to extrapolate information from this system and create a new report to provide this. The FOI Act covers information held by the Trust, and we are not obliged to create new information in order to answer an FOI request, as well as creating new information, this would also take in excess of the 18 hours allowed for under the FOI Act, and would therefore be exempt under section 12: *cost of compliance is excessive*.

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

*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.

Where the Trust owns the copyright in information provided, you may re-use the information in line with the conditions set out in the Open Government Licence v3 which is available at <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>. Where information was created by third parties, you should contact them directly for permission to re-use the information.

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.

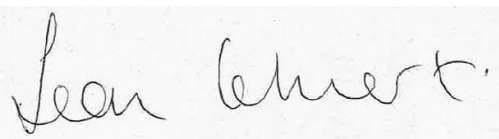
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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



Jean Lehnert
Information Governance Manager