



University Hospitals  
of North Midlands  
NHS Trust

Ref: FOIA Reference 2019/20-248

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

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> August 2019

Email [foi@uhnm.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@uhnm.nhs.uk)

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding abortion.

As of 1<sup>st</sup> 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 provide the total numbers of cases of proposed 'forced'**
- a) contraception**
  - b) sterilisation**
  - c) abortion in the five previous calendar years (01/01/14 to 31/12/18) arising from your NHS Trust?**

*(Reason for request: Following the recent 'forced abortion' case that reached the news, the Department of Health was asked by several MPs if the practice was common and if it occurred elsewhere. However, they responded that they did not have that information; it is not collected centrally. I am therefore checking each NHS Trust accordingly and avoiding this year to maintain the anonymity of those involved in the recent case. 'Proposed' -the NHS Trust has applied to a court for this action to occur 'Forced' -against the stated wishes of the patient.)*

A1 UHNM has had no cases as listed above.

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

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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.

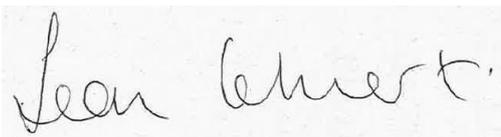
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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