



Ref: FOIA Reference 2019/20-211

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

Date: 15th August 2019

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 15th July 2019 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Down syndrome.

On 16th July 2019 we contacted you via email as the FOI Act clearly states that If we suspect that the request has come from a Pseudonym we are entitled to request proof of the person's identity, as provision of a Pseudonym invalidates a request, therefore please can you provide a photo copy of your driver's licence or other official document that validates your identity.

On 8th August 2019 (received into our office 9th August 2019) you replied via email with the following:
"I am not a pseudonym; I am a real life person making an FOI request. This was not asked previously when a FOI request was made. I am happy to speak with you on the phone but I do not feel safe sending copies of my personal and identifiable information over email. Please let me know a phone number so that I can contact you".

We replied: "UHNM has received an excessive amount of FOI requests where the name on the email header did not match the signature name; therefore we exercised our right under the FOI Act to check your identity.

We thank you for clarification on your name, and therefore will continue with your request. Please note that the "clock" stopped whilst we were waiting for your clarification and will re-start as of today".

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 Do you have a care pathway for expectant women who receive a screen positive result for Down syndrome? If so, please provide a copy/link.

A1 UHNM does not have a specific care pathway.

Q2 When a pregnant woman receives a screen positive result for Down syndrome is she referred for counselling? If so, to whom and when?

A2 Women are contacted within 3 working days to inform them of a high chance result. They are then offered a face to face appointment with the screening/fetal medicine team at a mutually convenient time (screening/fetal medicine midwives)

Q3 What training does the staff providing counselling have appertaining to:

- a) **Providing counselling**
- b) **Knowledge of Down syndrome?**

A3 Staff attend all regional workshops.

- Evidence of certificates
- Keele University- Certificate in Counselling
- ARC study days
- Down Syndrome association Study Days
- 'When a Baby dies' Donna Louise Hospice

*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.



University Hospitals
of North Midlands
NHS Trust

Yours,

Jean Lehnert
Information Governance Manager

