

Ref: FOIA Reference 2019/20-305

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

Date: 30th August 2019

Email foi@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 26th August 2019 (received into our office 27th August) requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding referrals.

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 Request 1: Please provide details of the number of referrals received by the Trust for patients to all MSK physiotherapy services for the following financial years:

- i) 2016/17
- ii) 2017/18
- iii) 2018/2019

A1 The Trust does not receive any referrals for MSK physiotherapy services. This service is provided by Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (MPFT) they can be contacted at the following email: foi@mpft.nhs.uk

Q2 Request 2: Please confirm or deny whether the Trust provides Musculoskeletal (MSK) services that include first contact physiotherapists in General Practice

A2 As answer 1

Q3 Request 3: Please confirm or deny whether patients can self-refer to physiotherapy services within the MSK services provided by the Trust

A3 As answer 1

Q4 Request 4: The amount of time taken between a referral (regardless of its source) to physiotherapist being made and the patient's first appointment with the physiotherapist for both routine and urgent cases

Please provide details of the average time taken for the following financial years:

- i) 2016/17 Routine: Urgent:
- ii) 2017/18 Routine: Urgent:
- iii) 2018/2019 Routine: Urgent:

c) If this is not available, please confirm if another entity, and if so which, holds this information for patients in the locality.

d) If this information is not held by you or another health body in your area, please confirm if referral to treatment times for physiotherapist appointments used to be recorded and if so, when did this cease to be measured?

Definitions of terms used in questions 2 and 3:

First contact physiotherapists in General Practice* = When a patient has an appointment with a physiotherapist instead of a GP at a GP practice

Patient self-referral= Patients can refer themselves to physio without seeing a GP or having a referral from anyone else.**

A4 As answer 1

*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.

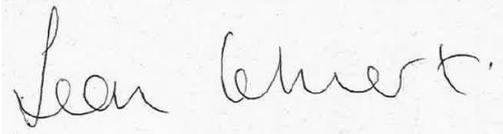
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light grey background. The signature reads "Jean Lehnert" in a cursive script.

Jean Lehnert
Information Governance Manager