



Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-39

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

Date: 20th April 2018

Tel: 01782 676474
Email foi@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 21st February 2018 (received into our office 18th April) requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding knife crime.

We are unable to provide some of the information you require in the requested format as to release this data could lead to the identification of the person(s) involved due to the low numbers involved, and would breach the Trusts obligations under the Data Protection Act 1998. Accordingly, this aspect of your request is exempt from disclosure under the terms of Section 40(2) of the Act. *Personal information*. However as the Trust is committed to openness and transparency we can band the numbers and have provided this below.

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 I am hoping you can assist or direct me to someone to assist.

I am sure you will have seen the national media and discussion taking place around the use of knives and the serious injuries this is causing across many parts of the country, the increase in knife crime is no different in Staffs police area in particular the north of the county but as yet we have not had the death of a young person.

As you appreciate the police are data rich and it tends to be police data that is used to highlight the issues across the UK.

In an effort to get a richer picture where can we get the knife injury data that the royal stoke would retain.

Clearly we are interested to understand numbers of a set business year and any increase /decrease.

Staffs police business year is April to April.

It appears hospitals do retain such data which I have seen from some London hospitals how we can get such data from royal stoke or any other main hospital across the force area such as Stafford etc.

A1 Information is not held for AE attendances as we do not code to this level of detail. However for in-patient stays using code ICD10 W260 - Contact with knife, sword or dagger. (This is just means an injury caused by knife it maybe a simple kitchen accident to a serious stabbing but we are unable to identify the severity) we can provide the following. Section 40 exemption as detailed above.

Cal years	Total
2013	less than 5
2014	5
2015	6
2016	5
2017	6
2018	less than 5

*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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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, consisting of a large, loopy initial 'M' followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Mojgan Casillas
Interim Information Governance Manager