



Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-037

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

Date 16th May 2018

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

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 18th April 2018 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding courier service for pathology.

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 would be grateful if you can answer the following question with regards to your current Pathology Courier/ Transport Services

Who is your current and previous pathology logistics contractor (spanning the last 3 years or existing contract- whichever is longer?)

A1 Please see below:

1. City Sprint: Collection of Pathology Laboratory GPDA work specimens from GP surgeries and delivery to UHNM.
2. DX Network; transport of clinical laboratory specimens and material between UK laboratories.

Q2 Who is your current and previous pathology logistics contractor (spanning the last 3 years or existing contract- whichever is longer)

A2 As answer 1

Q3 Who is the named lead undertaking the NHS Improvements 'Operational Improvement' Activity to move to cluster operations for pathology networks?

Please provide their name and salutation, their email address and mobile telephone number please.

A3 No lead has been appointed to this role

Q4 Who or which body would the procurement of your future contract be made by?

A4 UHNM is in the North Midlands 3 Pathology Network including Cheshire Pathology Services. No agreement has been reached regarding which Trust will lead on procurement of future

pathology logistics contracts or whether these will remain separate contracts or cover the network

Q5 Please provide the name, address, email and telephone number of the person responsible for the commissioning of services and the same for the person responsible for reviewing contract performance

A5 Please see below:

Andrew Clarke
Blood Sciences Manager
Pathology
Floor 2 Main Building
UHNM NHS Trust,
Royal Stoke University Hospital,
Newcastle Road
Stoke-on-Trent
ST4 6QG

Email; Andrew.clarke@uhnm.nhs.uk
Tel: 01782 674239

Q6 Please provide the current Service Speciation's in place across the contract (s).

A6 The Trust considers your request to be exempt from disclosure in accordance with section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act as to release this information would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of the Trust. In addition to Section 43(2) the Trust has also applied Sections 41(a): *information provided in confidence* and Section 44 (1) (a): *Prohibitions on disclosure*.

Q7 How is your current contract operated (in lots or as a whole)? What are the different budgets for these?

A7 Collection of Pathology Laboratory GPDA work specimens from GP surgeries in South Staffordshire and delivery to UHNM by City Sprint. North Staffordshire GPDA specimens are collected by the UHNM Pathology in-house courier service. Total expenditure on City Sprint contract depends on the number of additional ad hoc collections but budget is in region of £190k plus VAT. Budget for Pathology in-house service is £370k.

Q8 What is your forecast spend in the following years if known:

- a. 2018/19
- b. 2019/20
- c. 2021/22

A8 Approximately £190k plus VAT per annum (dependent on number of ad hoc deliveries in addition to scheduled routes) for the City Sprint 2018/19 contract covering collection of Pathology Laboratory GPDA work specimens from GP surgeries in South Staffordshire and delivery to UHNM. Forecast spend in 2019/20 and 2021/22 will depend on the outcome of tender to award a longer term contract. Forecast spend in 2018/19 for Pathology in-house service is £350k. Forecast spend in 2019/20 and 2021/22 for Pathology in-house service likely to increase in line with inflation (NHS pay award and fuel prices).

Q9 Please provide KPI and Penalties measure in place across this contract and the most recent performance review of the same.

A9 There are no KPIs and associated penalties in place within the City Sprint contract

Q10 Please provide the current service specification in place?

A10 As answer 6

*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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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,



University Hospitals
of North Midlands
NHS Trust

A handwritten signature in black ink, featuring a large, stylized loop at the top and a horizontal line at the bottom.

Mojgan Casillas
Interim Information Governance Manager