



Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-100

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

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Tel: 01782 676474  
Email [foi@uhn.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@uhn.nhs.uk)

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 14<sup>th</sup> May 2018 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding how many people have died in ambulances.

On the same day we contacted you via email as we required clarification on the following:

- Q1. How many people have died in ambulances on route to Stoke UHNM, = on route from where?
- Q1. What services are you referring to?
- Q2. Are you referring to children dying in hospital? If so dying from what?
- Q3. Please clarify what services and which hospital you are referring to.
- Q4. Our Apologies, but we are unable to know what you haven't asked.

On 21<sup>st</sup> May 2018 you replied via email the following:  
"In an attempt to clarify my query:

*Question 1: I would like to know how many people have died whilst travelling, in ambulance, from Stafford to Stoke each year since 2007.*

*Question 2: I would like to know how many of Stafford's children have died either in hospital or within 2 weeks of discharge each year since 2007. I am referring to both UHNM and County Hospital*

*Question 3: I am aware that services have been removed and /or reduced in the Stafford's County Hospital (for example children's emergency services). I would like to know which services have been removed / and or reduced from 2007 to the present date*

*Question 4:*

*I am preparing items for UHNM scrutiny. I wish to help the hospital in any way that I can.*

*I do not work within the NHS so can view from the outside but not the inside.*

*Nurses have come forward concerned about their registrations and generally afraid enough to find ways of **stopping working within a hospital setting.***

*You are able to see information that I cannot see.*

*I am providing you with an opportunity to help me bring hidden information into the light in an attempt to connect a charity to the hospital to create the support that is needed. (One step at a time)*

*I am asking, what should our first target be? Something simple like providing each Dr with a stethoscope or each ward with an oxygen saturation meter.*

*i.e. Does anything strike you from the information you can see.*

*(PS, I know that the NHS is currently in meltdown but let's please be positive and start with something simple. When we open people's hearts you would be amazed by what can be achieved)*

*I am providing you the opportunity to help me help others.*

*Hope this is a little clearer”*

On 24<sup>th</sup> May 2018 we contacted you via email as we required further clarification on Q2, we asked: What the children died from? Did you want to include still births, or babies who died shortly after birth from abnormalities, or children with diagnosed terminal illnesses?

Your original request asked about services being reduced, please can you confirm what services you are referring to.

On the same day you replied via email the following:

*“Yes, if they die it would be helpful to know from what. I'm sorry I didn't think it would be that many”*

On 25<sup>th</sup> May 2015 we contacted you via email as we still required clarification on the exact information you wanted for Q2, we asked:

As we have previously asked, please can you detail what services you are referring to when you state: Q2 How many children have died in Stafford since children's services have been reduced?”

And please can you confirm if you want the total number of child deaths regardless of reason for death?

We sincerely apologised for pausing this request again, but we wanted to be certain that the information was accurate and relevant to your questions.

On the same day you replied via email the following:

*“Well, County Hospital used to have a children's ward, it also had critical care unit, it also had 24/7 A and E, it then had a children's emergency centre, it now has no children's services. Or at least that is my understanding. Whichever way you look at it this means services have been reduced. It is unclear because this information is not openly publicised and I need to know what exactly has been removed and when. Is that clear?”*

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 How many people have died in ambulances on route to Stoke UHNM, each year, since services have closed?**

A1 As per your clarification: *I would like to know how many people have died whilst travelling, in ambulance, from Stafford to Stoke each year since 2007*  
Information not held by the Trust, however West Midlands Ambulance Service may hold this information and they can be contacted at the following email address: [foi@wmas.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@wmas.nhs.uk)

**Q2 How many children have died in Stafford since children's services have been reduced?**

A2 As per your 1<sup>st</sup> clarification: *I would like to know how many of Stafford's children have died either in hospital or within 2 weeks of discharge each year since 2007. I am referring to both UHNM and County Hospital*

2<sup>nd</sup> Clarification: *County Hospital used to have a children's ward, it also had critical care unit, it also had 24/7 A and E, it then had a children's emergency centre, it now has no children's services. Or at least that is my understanding. Whichever way you look at it this means services have been reduced. It is unclear because this information is not openly publicised and I need to know what exactly has been removed and when*

The services you are referring to were all transferred and reconfigured under the terms and conditions of the Trust Special Administrators in conjunction with Ernst and Young. The services that ceased at County Hospital were the Paediatric Assessment Unit and Shugborough Children's Ward. However, access to these services was and is still available to the population of Stafford at Royal Stoke University Hospital. For any statistics on child mortality please contact the Office for National Statistics.

**Q3 What services have been removed and what are the dates that they have been removed?**

A3 Your clarification: *I am aware that services have been removed and/or reduced in the Stafford's County Hospital (for example children's emergency services). I would like to know which services have been removed / and or reduced from 2007 to the present date*

As answer 2

**Q4 What haven't I asked that I need to ask?**

A4 Your Clarification: *I am preparing items for UHNM scrutiny. I wish to help the hospital in any way that I can. I do not work within the NHS so can view from the outside but not the inside. Nurses have come forward concerned about their registrations and generally afraid enough to find ways of stopping working within a hospital setting. You are able to see information that I cannot see.  
I am providing you with an opportunity to help me bring hidden information into the light in an attempt to connect a charity to the hospital to create the support that is needed. (One step at a time) I am asking, what should our first target be? Something simple like providing each Dr with a stethoscope or each ward with an oxygen saturation meter. i.e. Does anything strike you from the information you can see.  
(PS, I know that the NHS is currently in meltdown but let's please be positive and start with something simple. When we open people's hearts you would be amazed by what can be achieved) I am providing you the opportunity to help me help others. Hope this is a little clearer"*

The Freedom of Information Act (2000) is for the release of information that is held and recorded and does not cover the opinions of persons regarding suppliers, systems or procedures, therefore this information is not held. However UHNM Charity would be willing to discuss fundraising further and they can be contacted at the following email addresses:  
Email: [charity@uhn.nhs.uk](mailto:charity@uhn.nhs.uk) or [fundraising@uhn.nhs.uk](mailto:fundraising@uhn.nhs.uk)

\*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](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,



Mojgan Casillas  
**Interim Information Governance Manager**



**University Hospitals  
of North Midlands**  
NHS Trust