



Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-103

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

Date: 8th June 2018

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

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 14th May 2018 (received into our office 15th May) requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding direct engagement of locum staff using third party.

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 writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I would be interested in any information held by your organisation regarding my request. I understand that I do not have to specify particular files or documents and it is the department's responsibility to provide the information I require. If you need further clarification please contact me via this website (or email). I would like to request the following information:

1. Does your organization use a Direct Engagement scheme?

A1 Yes

Q2 If so, who provides it? And when did you start using it?

A2 PWC – The Trust started to use Clarity on the 6th November 2017

Q3 Did you take external legal advice before entering into it and, if so, from whom did you take external legal advice?

A3 No, this was a novation from an original contract which was implemented in 2015

Q4 What has your total locum/temporary staffing spend since you started using the scheme? If you started using the scheme before April 2017 please also state the total locum/temporary staffing spend since April 2017.

A4 Total agency expenditure for period Apr 2017 – Mar 2018 - £18,486,910

Q5 How does the third party direct engagement facilitator save you money on the agency spend?

Please answer in short point form 6. How much has been paid to the third party direct engagement facilitator thus far?

- A5 The savings are achieved by increased control and transparency of the rates being paid to the worker and agency. There are also decreased costs as the worker is directly engaged by the Trust rather than being engaged and supplied via an agency
- Q6 Was this payment calculated as a percentage of the savings generated by employing the services of the third party direct engagement facilitator? If so, what percentage is this?**
- A6 This payment is not calculated as a percentage of the savings generated.

*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,



University Hospitals
of North Midlands
NHS Trust

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

Mojgan Casillas
Interim Information Governance Manager