



Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-244

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

Date: 16<sup>th</sup> August 2018

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

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 25<sup>th</sup> July 2018 (received into our office 26<sup>th</sup> July) requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding disposal of drugs due to the summer heat.

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 Please can you provide me information on the quantity of prescription medications, drugs and any other dispensed medical substances ("Drugs") disposed of during the summer heat wave (from the start of June 2018 until the most recent possible date when the search is made.**

**If you have a register of Drugs being disposed of including dates of the disposal, type and name of Drug, quantities involved, and value of each batch to be disposed of, please provide me with such a register for the given period.**

**Otherwise, please provide information as to the overall quantity and value of Drugs to be disposed, and provide as much of a breakdown into the fields given previously as is possible.**

A1 The Trust does not keep a dedicated register of drugs 'written off' due to the heat wave.

**Q2 Please can you tell me whether (i) all, (ii) some, or (iii) which of the hospitals or medical centres that come under the Trust, have the appropriate facilities to refrigerate Drugs.**

A2 All Trust hospital sites and all relevant clinical areas and departments which keep cold storage medicines have a suitable medicine fridge for storage between 2-8 degrees C. A small number of areas have freezers.

\*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,



Leah Carlisle  
**Deputy Head of Quality, Safety & Compliance**