



**University Hospitals
of North Midlands**
NHS Trust

Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-391

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

Date: 26th October 2018

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

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 2nd October 2018 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding MND service structure and provision.

I can neither confirm nor deny whether the information you have requested is held by the Trust in its entirety. This is because the information requested in question 19 is not held centrally, but may be recorded in individual health records. In order to confirm whether this information is held we would therefore have to individually access all health records within the Trust and extract the information where it is present. We therefore estimate that complying with your request is exempt under section 12 of the FOI Act: *cost of compliance is excessive*. The section 12 exemption applies when it is estimated a request will take in excess of 18 hours to complete. We estimate that accessing and reviewing all health records and then extracting relevant information would take longer than the 18 hours allowed for.

Under section 16 of the FOI Act we are required to provide requestors with advice and assistance where possible. We would therefore like to advise you that if your request is shortened to the remaining questions we are able to comply within the 18 hour time frame. In order to avoid delay to your response we have provided this attached.

On the same day we contacted you via email as under section 8(1) of the FOI Act, requestors are required to provide a full name in order to make a request valid. The Information Commissioner states that a "title and/or first name with surname satisfies the requirement for provision of a real name, as does the use by a female applicant of her maiden name". Therefore, in order to proceed with your request can you please supply us with a valid name?

On 4th October you replied via email the following: *Thank you for your email. The request can be logged under my name, [REDACTED] as Programme Manager for [REDACTED]*

On 5th October 2018 we contacted you to inform you that we had received several identical requests from your company and that we would be collating all the requests under this reference number.

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'm contacting you regarding an NIHR-funded research programme, called [REDACTED] which is looking at the nutritional management of people with Motor Neurone Disease (MND). Professor [REDACTED] from [REDACTED] is the lead of this research programme, and you can find out more information about this here: [REDACTED]

As part of the research we would like to request the following information from your organisation to find out more about the current structure and commissioning of MND services across the UK. Please note that the information request includes tables which may not be formatted correctly on receipt - as such, the full request is also attached as a Word document for your information.

A1 Please refer to the document that you supplied.

*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.

Where the Trust owns the copyright in information provided, you may re-use the information in line with the conditions set out in the Open Government Licence v3 which is available at <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>. Where information was created by third parties, you should contact them directly for permission to re-use the information.

An anonymised copy of this request can be found on the Trust's disclosure log, please note that all requests can be found at the following link: <http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/aboutus/Statutory-Policies-and-Procedures/Pages/Freedom-of-Information-Disclosure-Log.aspx>

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.



University Hospitals
of North Midlands
NHS Trust

Yours,

L Carlisle

Leah Carlisle
Deputy Head of Quality, Safety & Compliance

