

Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-428

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

Date: 29th October 2018

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

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 19th October 2018 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding loans and returns of hospital equipment.

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 Do you have a system for recording loans and returns of:

- a. **Crutches**
- b. **Wheelchairs**
- c. **Other walking aids**

A1 Information not held as all equipment is managed by Mediquip, a private company employed through the Commissioners on a service level agreement (SLA) to provide equipment across the health economy.

Please also note that this information is available via the Trust's public website at the following link: <http://www.uhn.nhs.uk/aboutus/Statutory-Policies-and-Procedures/Pages/Freedom-of-Information-Disclosure-Log.aspx> (July 2018/19 and October 2018/19)

Q2 If yes, please provide, for each category and for each of the past five financial years:

- a. **How much you spent on the items**
- b. **The number of items bought**
- c. **The number of items issued to patients**
- d. **The number of items returned by patients**
- e. **The number of items reused for other patients**
- f. **The number of items disposed of, and where available, their destination (e.g. sent to waste firm, donated to care home)**

A2 As answer 1

Q3 Please provide me with a copy of any Trust guidelines on the purchase and disposal of crutches, wheelchairs and walking aids.

A3 As answer 1

*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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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.

Yours,



Leah Carlisle
Deputy Head of Quality, Safety & Compliance



University Hospitals
of North Midlands
NHS Trust

