



**University Hospitals  
of North Midlands**  
NHS Trust

Royal Stoke University Hospital

**Quality, Safety and Compliance Department**

Newcastle Road  
Stoke-on-Trent  
Staffordshire  
ST4 6QG

Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-496

Date: 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Tel: 01782 676474

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

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 19<sup>th</sup> November 2018 (received into our office 20<sup>th</sup> November) requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding break-ins and trespass at the Royal Infirmary site.

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 questions (d) is not held centrally, but may be recorded in individual departmental records. In order to confirm whether this information is held we would therefore have to individually access all departmental 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 departmental 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 your request is shortened to just questions that we are able to comply within the 18 hour time frame. In order to avoid delay to your response we have provided this below.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2018 we contacted you via email as we required clarification on what were you are referring to as trespass, for example did you mean dog walkers on Trust property? Please could you give examples of what you meant?

On 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2018 you replied via email the following:

*"I have taken the exact wording 'break-ins and trespass' from this month's UHNM board meeting papers. The board papers reveal there have been 180 'break-ins and trespass' incidents at the Royal Infirmary in the past 12 months. Therefore I have purely selected UHNM's own definition".*

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 I am requesting all incidents of break-ins and trespass at the Royal Infirmary site from October 1<sup>st</sup> 2015 to the present day.  
For each incident, I request:**



- The date
- Particular location within the site
- Nature of the incident,
- Action taken and any costs on each occasion.

A1 Please note that the nature of the reported incidents are people entering the Royal Infirmary site for the purposes of 'urban exploration', taking photographs/filming, nuisance behaviour and access/egress from neighbouring properties. Please refer to the attached spread sheet,

a) The date	Spread sheet
b) Particular location within the site	Section 31(1) (a) section 38 (1)(b) as detailed below
c) Nature of the incident	Spread sheet
d) Action taken and any costs on each occasion.	Spread sheet however note that the costs of any action taken, is not held by the Trust the security service provided at the Royal Infirmary is part of the car parking contract and therefore we cannot extrapolate a cost for security alone. For cost of making good any damage/securing the buildings- section 12 exemption as detailed above

Location of incident(s):-

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 your question is exempt under sections 31(1)(a) the prevention or detection of a crime and 38(1)(b) of the FOI Act. This section states: (1) Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to— (b) endanger the safety of any individual.

The Trust determines that to disclose the exact location of alleged break-in/trespass would prejudice the Trust's ability to prevent and react to potential break-in's/trespass. Criminal incidents present a real risk of harm to members of staff and patients, in particular as the Trust operates on a 24/7 basis, meaning there will always be staff in a large proportionate of the premises, these would be at an increased risk of harm or endangerment if there is a break-in.

\*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

***UHNH 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](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**