

Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-508

Date: 11th January 2019

Tel: 01782 676474

Email FOI@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your letter dated 15th November 2018 (received into our office 23rd November) requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Serratia outbreak.

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 require the full outbreak investigation report concerning case of Serratia affecting the neonatal unit in 2012

A1 Please note that some information within the documents has been redacted. This is because it is exempt under section 40(2) of the FOI Act: personal information. The information could be used to identify individual patients and/or their representative and therefore has not been released. Please refer to the attached document.

Q2 The minutes of infection control meetings over the entirety of 2011

A2 I can confirm that the Trust holds information regarding the minutes of infection control meetings over the entirety of 2011, but feel this information is exempt under sections 36(b) *inhibits the free and frank provision of advice or exchange of views*; and section 41: *provided in confidence*: The Trust has determined whether disclosure of this information would have a detrimental effect, as defined by the sections 36 and 41 exemptions and has refused this request on the grounds that it could prejudice the effective conduct of public affairs and inhibit free and frank discussion within the Infection Prevention and Control Committee going forward.

Please note that I can confirm that Infection Prevention and Control Committee meetings took place on the following dates: (fiscal year provided)

- 16th May 2011
- 18th July 2011
- 19th September 2011
- 21st November 2011
- 16th January 2012.
- 19th March 2012

The Trust has conducted a public interest test as stated in the Freedom of Information Act (2000) and has concluded that the exemptions have been applied correctly.

Q3 External reports in relation to the cases of Serratia affecting the neonatal unit in 2012

A3 The Trust has no external reports.

*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,



University Hospitals
of North Midlands
NHS Trust

L Carlisle

Leah Carlisle
Deputy Head of Quality, Safety & Compliance

