

Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-717

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

Date: 13th March 2019

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 22nd February 2019 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding employing counsellors and psychotherapists.

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 How many psychotherapists and counsellors have been employed by the Trust since 2012-present? Can these numbers be provided by year?

A1 Please see below:

Year	Psychotherapist	Counsellor
2012	1	0
2013	1	0
2014	1 (to 07/14)	0
2015	0	0
2016	0	0
2017	0	0
2018	0	0

Q2 How many third-party psychotherapists and counsellors (or psychotherapy and counselling services) are not directly employed by the Trust, but treat the Trust's patients through referrals, since 2012? Can these numbers be given by year?

A2 Information is not held by UHNM, this may be available by contacting:
North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust. communications@northstaffs.nhs.uk

Q3 Could you please provide information on what standards the Trust requires candidates to meet, in order to be employed with the job title psychotherapist or counsellor? Is there a policy on what training or accreditation is necessary, in order to apply for these job roles within the Trust?

A3 Not applicable – these roles are not utilised within the Trust

Q4 Could you please provide any information as to whether any policy or background check process for hiring psychotherapists and counsellors is also applied to third party care providers who the Trust might refer patients to?

A4 Any sub contract requires the sub-contractor to adhere to the NHS employment checks when employing staff in the provision of services. This includes qualifications, references, DBS clearance, right to work in the UK and professional registration (where applicable)

*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.

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

