



Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-757

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

Date: 21<sup>st</sup> March 2019

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

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 14<sup>th</sup> March 2019 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding and PEPPOL.

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 conducting research into the NHS adoption of PEPPOL (Pan European Public Procurement on Line) am making a request under the FOI Act with regards to the following questions. Please forward this request onto the procurement team:**

- 1. Does your Trust use PEPPOL as the messaging standard for key documents (purchase orders, advance shipping notes, invoices) to be exchanged between the Trust and suppliers? \*Please see below for a PEPPOL definition**
  - a. If yes, please provide the name of the PEPPOL access point provider (i.e. GHX, Pagero, EDICOM, Tradeshift etc) \*Please see below for a definition of a PEPPOL access point provider**
  - b. What was the annual cost of their services in 17/18?**
  - c. Contract Start Date**
  - d. Contract End Date**
  - e. Did the organisation use a framework to procure this service? If so, please provide the framework name**
  - f. Please provide the name and job title of the individual who signed the contract**
  - g. Following the purchase of your PEPPOL Access Point Supplier, has the organisation seen any quantifiable benefits, if so, please provide detail of these benefits (i.e. reduction of hours spent on manual checks, % of tasks process automation, reduction in errors)**

**A1** The Trust does not currently use PEPPOL. (Points (a-g) not applicable.)

- Q2 Does the PEPPOL access point provider integrate with any other non-NHS systems to provide services, supported by and compliant with PEPPOL? (i.e. to provide Process Orders (PO's), Stock Items, Auditing, Fraud Protection etc.)**
- a. If yes, please provide the name of the non-NHS provider and the type of service provided:**

PEPPOL provides a set of technical specifications that can be implemented in existing eProcurement solutions and eBusiness exchange services to make them interoperable between disparate systems across Europe. PEPPOL enables trading partners to exchange standards-based electronic documents over the PEPPOL network (based on a 4-corner model). These documents include e-Orders, e-Advance Shipping Notes, eInvoices, eCatalogues, Message Level Responses, etc.

PEPPOL ACCESS POINTS are the meeting point for message transmissions between suppliers and the public sector. All invoices and orders will be processed through the access points providers.

A2 Not Applicable.

\*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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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,



University Hospitals  
of North Midlands  
NHS Trust

*L Carlisle*

Leah Carlisle  
Deputy Head of Quality, Safety & Compliance

