



Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-649

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

Date: 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019

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

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019 received into our office 1<sup>st</sup> February) requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding recycling employer pension contributions.

As of 1<sup>st</sup> November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHM) 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 As a result of HMRC's changes to the pensions Lifetime Allowance ('the LTA') and Annual Allowance ('the AA') many of our members have left the NHS Pensions Scheme. This results in NHS Employers saving the employer pension contributions which they would have paid into our members' pensions had they not left the scheme. We have been made aware of some NHS Employers operating policies to enable such scheme leavers to apply for and receive payment of the monies which their NHS Employer would have paid into their pension in the form of employer pension contributions. The following request for information relates to the monies which you, as the NHS Employer, have saved from unpaid employer pension contributions in the way described above.**

**Do you have a policy (written or unwritten) by which one of your employees who is leaving the NHS Pension Scheme may be able to receive after leaving the scheme payment(s) equivalent to or calculated in relation to the employer pension contributions which you, as the NHS Employer, would have paid to his/her pension had they not left the scheme?**

A1 The Trust does not have a policy of this nature.

**Q2 If you, as the NHS Employer, do not have such a policy, did you used to have one or do you intend to implement one? If you intend to implement such a policy, when do you expect that the policy will be implemented?**

A2 We have not had such a policy and do not intend to implement one

**Q3 If you, as the NHS Employer, do have such a policy, how many doctors and how many non doctors that you employ have benefitted from it by receiving payments under it?**

A3 Not applicable we have not had such a policy and do not intend to implement one.

**Q4 What are the policy criteria for establishing employees' eligibility to receive such payments? Please provide a copy of the policy or any other documents evidencing the eligibility criteria and rules.**

A4 Not applicable we have not had such a policy and do not intend to implement one.

\*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](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



University Hospitals  
of North Midlands  
NHS Trust

Deputy Head of Quality, Safety & Compliance

