



**University Hospitals
of North Midlands**
NHS Trust

Ref: FOIA Reference 2019/20-094

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

Date: 6th June 2019

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 19th May 2019 (received into our office 20th May) requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Histology productivity and digital pathology usage.

On 20th May 2019 we contacted you via email as UHNM is unable to open survey links or respond to FOI request made this way, due to cyber security and the procedures we have in place to validate the information we release.

We are more than happy to answer your request if you are able to put into a word document/ spread sheet or in the body of an email.

On the same day you provided a word document via email.

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 am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act to request the following information on cellular pathology services [Histology]
The information request takes the form of a questionnaire, answers to this will form the basis of a PhD project that I am currently completing at [REDACTED] examining how digital pathology systems are affecting/will affect histology services in the UK (NHS). I also work in the NHS (in histology) and understand the time pressures faced, I have therefore tried to make this as simple and easy to complete as possible. If you can identify any ways that my request could be refined, I would be grateful for any further advice and assistance.

A1 I can confirm that the Trust holds information regarding digital pathology systems, but feel this information is exempt under section 21: *information reasonably accessible* by other means. This is because the information is available via NHS England West Midlands Cancer Alliance; they can be contacted at the following email address: england.contactus@nhs.net



*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.

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.

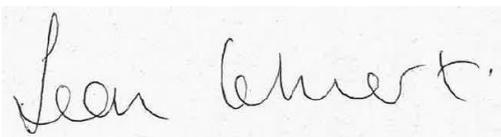
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and 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.

If following review of the responses I can be of any further assistance please contact my secretary on 01782 676474.

Yours,



Jean Lehnert



University Hospitals
of North Midlands
NHS Trust

Information Governance Manager

