



Ref: FOIA Reference 2023/24-228

Date: 3rd October 2023

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 10th July 2023 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Mastectomy reconstruction

On the same day you contacted us via email with the following:

'Please note the error in the below email - the request is for NHS Trusts, not police forces'

You later send another communication to us via email as follows:

'Just a note to add that I am a journalist acting on behalf of the i newspaper.'

As of 1st 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 I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information from the police force. Changed as per your additional email above to 'The Trust'

1a) Divided by month, how long the waiting list is for getting a breast reconstruction after a mastectomy from January 2016 to July 2023 (or the most up-to-date data)?

1b) Please divide this information according to different types of breast reconstruction i.e. implant, LD flap, DIEP flap

A1 We are unable to provide the information you require in the requested format as to release this data could lead to the identification of the person(s) involved due to the low numbers involved, and would breach the Trusts obligations under Data Protection Act 2018. Accordingly, this aspect of your request is exempt from disclosure under the terms of Section 40(2) of the FOI Act. *Personal information*. However as the Trust is committed to openness and transparency we can band the numbers as being <5

This exemption is an absolute exemption and therefore no consideration of the public interest test is needed.

See attached spreadsheet

Q2 Divided by month, how many people are on the waiting list for breast reconstruction after a mastectomy from January 2016 to July 2023 (or the most up-to-date data)?

A2 We are unable to provide the information you require in the requested format as to release this data could lead to the identification of the person(s) involved due to the low numbers involved, and would breach the Trusts obligations under Data Protection Act 2018. Accordingly, this aspect of your request is exempt from disclosure under the terms of Section 40(2) of the FOI Act. *Personal information*. However as the Trust is committed to openness and transparency we can band the numbers as being <5
This exemption is an absolute exemption and therefore no consideration of the public interest test is needed.
See attached spreadsheet

Q3 a) What date did the Trust stop performing reconstructions at the same time as mastectomies during the pandemic?

3b) What date did the trust start offering reconstructions at the same time as mastectomies again?

Please provide the information in the form of a spread sheet.

A3 We are unable to provide the information you require in the requested format as to release this data could lead to the identification of the person(s) involved due to the low numbers involved, and would breach the Trusts obligations under Data Protection Act 2018. Accordingly, this aspect of your request is exempt from disclosure under the terms of Section 40(2) of the FOI Act. *Personal information*. However as the Trust is committed to openness and transparency we can band the numbers as being <5
This exemption is an absolute exemption and therefore no consideration of the public interest test is needed.
See attached spreadsheet

*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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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 671612.

Yours,



Rachel Montinaro
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records