

Ref: FOIA Reference 2020/21-171

**Royal Stoke University Hospital**  
**Data, Security and Protection**  
Newcastle Road  
Stoke-on-Trent  
Staffordshire  
ST4 6QG

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020

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

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 10<sup>th</sup> August 2020 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding systems

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 I would like to get more detailed information on your usage of laboratory and oncology information systems and thus request the following information at NHS UK Trusts level:  
Laboratory information system**

- 1. Which laboratory information system do you use in your hospital?**
- 2. How is the laboratory information solution usually procured (e.g. tender, spot purchase, etc.)?**
- 3. Who is in charge of making the procurement decisions for laboratory information systems (free choice or central directions)?**
- 4. When did the on-going contract for the used laboratory information system start?**
- 5. When will the on-going contract for the used laboratory information system end?**
- 6. How frequent are contracts for laboratory information systems renewed?**
- 7. How are you paying for the usage of the laboratory information system (e.g. on-off payment, recurring annual payments etc.)?**
- 8. In case there was an on-off payment - How much did you pay for the laboratory information system?**
- 9. In case there are recurring payments - How much do you pay per year for the laboratory information system?**

A1 Some commercially sensitive information relating has not been disclosed here as we consider that under section 43(2) of the FOI Act: *prejudice to the commercial interests of any party*, is engaged. Disclosure of this information could be commercially detrimental to the Trust and companies acting on our behalf and result in less competitive prices for services. The likely consequence of this would be increased cost for service provision to the Trust. We have considered how the public interest might apply, and although recognising that there is a strong public interest in openness there is a greater public interest ensuring an ability to obtain best value for money.

Please refer to the attached spread sheet that you supplied.

**Q2 Oncology information system**

1. Which oncology information system do you use in your hospital?
2. How is the oncology information solution usually procured (e.g. tender, spot purchase, etc.)?
3. Who is in charge of making the procurement decisions for oncology information systems (free choice or central directions)?
4. When did the on-going contract for the used oncology information system start?
5. When will the on-going contract for the used oncology information system end?
6. How frequent are contracts for oncology information systems renewed?
7. How are you paying for the usage of the oncology information system (e.g. on-off payment, recurring annual payments etc.)?
8. In case there was an on-off payment - How much did you pay for the oncology information system?
9. In case there are recurring payments - How much do you pay per year for the oncology information system?

Please insert your answer in the attached Excel sheet

A2 As answer 1

\*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](http://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,



Jean Lehnert  
**Data, Security & Protection Manager**