

Ref: FOIA Reference 2020/21-561

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

Date: 19th March 2021

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 9th March 2021 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding video conferencing

The University Hospitals of North Midlands Trust is committed to the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

However, the NHS is facing unprecedented challenges relating to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic at the current time. Understandably, our resources have been diverted to support our front-line colleagues who are working tremendously hard to provide care for our patients, and to those in need of our services.

We strive to be transparent and to work with an open culture. But at this time, whilst care of our patients and the safety of our staff takes precedent, it is likely that responses to some requests for information will be delayed. We apologise for this position in advance, and will endeavour to provide you with as much information as we can, as soon as we are able.

The Information Commissioners Office has recognised the current situation in the NHS

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 2000 to request the following information from Video Conferencing / AV-VC / Digital Team.
Please may you provide me with?**

1. Do you have any video conferencing hardware? If so what manufacturer and model?

A1 I can confirm that the Trust holds information regarding this question, but feel this information is exempt under section 21: *information reasonably accessible by other means*. This is because the information is available via the Trust's public website at the following link: FOI Ref 238-1920 July 2019-20

<http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/about-us/regulatory-information/freedom-of-information-publication-scheme/freedom-of-information-disclosure-log/>

Q2 Is there a support contract in place for this equipment?

A2 As answer 1

Q3 How many systems / meeting room systems do you have? Across how many sites?

A3 2 main sites = circa 30 rooms

Q4 What video conferencing platforms do you use with this video conferencing hardware?

A4 Polycom / Teams Laptop/PC

Q5 What solutions are being used for Video Consultations at present? When is the next review of this contract?

A5 Teams = No contract expiry.

Q6 Do you use a video conferencing platform for interoperability (i.e.. Teams to Zoom, Zoom to Webex etc)?

A6 No, we do not have an integrated Teams or Zoom solution these are standalone.

Q7 Does the organisation use Microsoft Teams for video conferencing? Has it's usage overtaken any previous video conferencing tool in place before Microsoft Teams' implementation?

A7 Yes

Q8 Who is in charge of the Video Conferencing Estate / Equipment? What is their email address?

A8 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.

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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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.

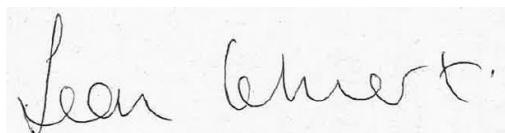
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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



Jean Lehnert
Data, Security & Protection Manager