

Ref: FOIA Reference 2021/22-060

Date: 18th May 2021

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

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 28th April 2021 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding medical locums.

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

On 29th April 2021 we contacted you via email as we required the following clarifications:

1. Please will you explain your acronym RMO
2. Q3: **Please supply the total number of days worked by locum RMO's or junior doctors for 2020-2021 at your Trust.**

Can you clarify if you are asking about number of days worked by locum RMO's and locum junior doctors

3. Q4: **The hourly rate paid to agencies supplying casual RMO's or junior doctors**

Can you clarify the term 'casual' please? Do you mean locum?

On the same day you replied via email with:

'In point 3 please would you include days worked by RMO (resident junior doctors) and junior doctors living off- site doing locum shifts.

In point 4, yes indeed I meant locum doctors working both residentially and living off- site.'

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 For the last year (2020-2021) please supply a list of the agencies the Trust uses for medical locums.

A1 See below:

Accident & Emergency Agency
Athona
CPL Locums
Doctors on Call
DRC Locums
ED Staffing
Fresh Medical
HCL Doctors
Holt Doctors
ID Medical
Interact Medical Staffing
Locum People
Locum Vision
Medacs Healthcare
Medecho
Medilink Consulting
Medsol Healthcare
National Locums
NC Healthcare
Pertemps
ProMedical
RM Medics
Total Assist

Q2 A breakdown of the monetary spend per agency for Medical Locums

A2 The Trust considers this question to be exempt from disclosure in accordance with section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act as to release this information would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of the Trust. The Trust has applied the public interest test to this request and feels that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

Q3 Please supply the total number of days worked by locum RMO's or junior doctors for 2020-2021 at your Trust.

A3 As per your clarification: *In point 3 please would you include days worked by RMO (resident junior doctors) and junior doctors living off- site doing locum shifts.*

Junior doctors worked shifts on 8968 days. This would equate to 3004 days in total (Hrs/24 hours per day).

Q4 The hourly rate paid to agencies supplying casual RMO's or junior doctors

A4 As per your clarification: In point 4, yes indeed I meant locum doctors working both residentially and living off- site.

Hourly Rate varied between the range £53 to £65

*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.

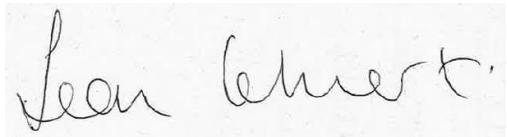
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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



Jean Lehnert
Data, Security & Protection Manager