

Ref: FOIA Reference 2021/22-236

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> August 2021

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

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 26<sup>th</sup> July 2021 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding policy on Covid isolation

As of 1<sup>st</sup> 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 Under the Freedom of Information Act 2001, I would like to request the following information, specifically relating to cataract surgery:**

- 1. Your local policy on Covid isolation and testing specifically for elective day case surgery, specifically cataract surgery. Please itemise what criteria is used for PCR testing, how this is monitored and when results are escalated to command centre.**

A1 All patients requiring elective surgery at University Hospitals of North Midlands are required to be classed as green patients and require a PCR test before their planned surgery date. This is to ensure that risk to clinicians, staff and other patients is minimised.

The patient will attend for their pre-booked PCR test 3 days before operation and will then isolate from home.

**Q2 How you are monitoring GIRFT for cataract hubs and high flow cataract lists published March 2021.**

A2 Through attendance on the Midlands Elective Delivery Programme and wider Elective Recovery programmes

**Q3 What is your local GIRFT risk stratification tool for cataract surgery? Please provide a copy.**

A3 Patients get listed for surgery – they can come through two pathways:

1. patient gets referred by optometrist / GP with cataract (majority of patients) - seen in direct access cataract clinic - examined by doctor, pre assessment carried out including all tests and put on list for surgery.

2. Patients seen in any other clinic (may be already under the care of that clinic for other ocular condition), noted to have cataract - examined on the day, pre assessed on the day and listed for cataract surgery.  
Once listed - date sent for surgery.

**Q4 GIRFT metrics for cataract surgery. Please provide a copy for April 21, May 21, June 21 and July 21 in line with published data. If this is not being collected, please itemise why**

A4 See below:

- July 66
- June 162
- May 58
- April 33

\*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.

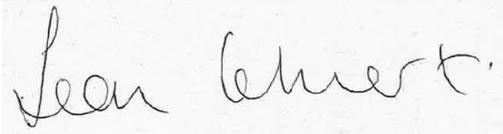
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light grey background. The signature reads "Jean Lehnert" in a cursive script.

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