

Ref: FOIA Reference 2021/22-555

Date: 22nd February 2022

**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 3rd February 2022 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Covid.

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 would like to ascertain the following:

- 1. How many patients does the Trust currently have in hospital with Covid 19 (by this I mean people taking a bed?)**

A1 See below:

Number of Covid positive patients including Critical Care patients				
	1 st November 2021	1 st December 2021	1 st January 2022	1 st February 2022
Royal Stoke	84	56	84	142
County Hospital	8	6	23	19
Total	92	62	107	161

Q2 How many of these have been vaccinated with either one, two or three doses, and how many have had no jabs at all.

A2 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:

<Http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/about-us/regulatory-information/freedom-of-information-publication-scheme/freedom-of-information-disclosure-log/> (FOI ref 552-2122)

Q3 How many of these total patients (vaccinated and unvaccinated) are in the ICU

A3 See below: Please note: The numbers above are covid positive patients occupying a critical bed.

Number of Covid positive patients in Critical Care				
	1st November 2021	1st December 2021	1st January 2022	1st February 2022
Critical Care	16	13	10	5

Q4 How many in the ICU being treated for Covid are vaccinated (by this I mean one, two or three jabs), and how many have had none at all?

A4 As answer 2

Q5 How many of those in the ICU are there being treated for Covid ONLY as opposed to Covid as an incidental thing alongside something else

A snapshot of one day would be good, so I will ask for the 1st of February 2022.

I would also like the figures for the same five points for the 1st of January 2022, the 1st of December 2021, and the 1st of November 2021.

A5 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.

Number of Covid positive patients in critical care				
	1st November 2021	1st December 2021	1st January 2022	1st February 2022
Number of Critical Care Patients	16	13	10	5
Number of Critical care	9	<5	<5	<5

Patients with Covid as the Primary Diagnosis				
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*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.

Where the Trust owns the copyright in information provided, you may re-use the information in line with the conditions set out in the Open Government Licence v3 which is available at <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>. Where information was created by third parties, you should contact them directly for permission to re-use the information.

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.

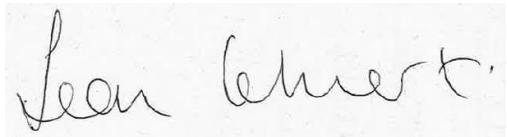
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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