



Ref: FOIA Reference 2021/22-600

Date: 4th April 2022

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 24th February 2022 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Bariatric Equipment.

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 wish to know how much your Trust has spent on specialist bariatric equipment for obese/bariatric patients (patients over 160kg) during the last three financial years?

A1 Approximately £400k on rental and purchased items

Q2 Please give a breakdown of the type of equipment used by the Trust and the amounts spent, split between Rental expenditure and Purchased Equipment?

A2 We are unable to give full financial breakdown, and we are unable to provide a comprehensive list of items which are classed as Bariatric, as these are part of a wider purchase, however: Type of equipment used includes: Beds, hoists, chairs, mattress, mattress covers, scales etc.

Q3 If equipment used is on a Rental basis, please specify if this was under a contract basis or ad hoc?

A3 Rental of the equipment was under the Health Trust Europe Framework (THE) contract

Q4 When is the contract due for renewal?

A4 31st March 2022

Q5 If known, who is the contract with?

A5 1st Call Mobility/Arjo for rental of equipment

Q6 If under a contract, please supply the means of contract award, i.e. framework or direct award.

A6 Health Trust Europe Framework

Q7 How many Bariatric beds does the Trust own?

A7 In surgery we have 7 physical beds in total.

*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.

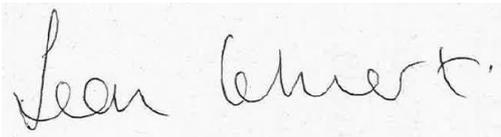
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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