



**University Hospitals
of North Midlands**
NHS Trust

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

Ref: FOIA Reference 2022/23-240

Date: 22nd August 2022

Email foi@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 29th July 2022 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding cable ties.

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 the same day we contacted you via email as we required clarification on whether this is a sales pitch or an actual FOI request? If a request, then please supply a timeframe in order for us to collate the information, if a sale pitch please with draw this request

You replied via email with:

'It is a foi request? We are just wording if differently to access all the info , and Leo advise the Trusts of all the options available'

We responded via email with:

Thank you, however we also asked for a time frame

You replied via email with:

'We are ,asking if the Trust currently uses ties , if so what size of tie , colour , quantity per annum currently used , and the print they currently have to determine a quote if and when asked , because all Trusts use different ties and have different prints on them'

We responded with: To clarify, are you asking for this year, or last year?

You replied with:



'I am asking for the lastly year'

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 Can you advise if the Trust uses plain or printed cable ties for their waste? If the answer is no, would the Trust consider using them, if the price is right for the Trust?

Also we would like to let the Trust know we currently supply around 65% of the NHS, and within the next 18 months the cable ties will be fully biodegradable from SPK promotions, but currently we only use and supply nylon PA66, would this be of interest?

A1 Cable ties are not used, nor would we look to use them with our current waste suppliers

Q2 Can you advise the size of cable tie, the colour, and quantity per annum and print required?

A2 Not applicable

Q3 Can you advise if you are currently under contract if so, when is the end date?

A3 Not applicable

Q4 Can you advise the person or departments contact details, who deals with these and orders them?

A4 Not applicable

Q5 Can you advise the price per thousand of these which the Trust would like to pay to keep their consumable prices down, not what they pay already?

A5 Not applicable

Q6 Would the Trust like to see samples from SPK promotions? Free of charge; if yes please advise a contact dept. or person and a full postal address.

A6 Yes, happy to receive samples, though please note that under our existing waste suppliers, cable ties are not required. Due to the sustainability drive for the Trust, I would recommend sending biodegradable only

Contact Details:

Deputy Head of Soft FM
Estates and Facilities office, Ground Floor
County Hospital
Stafford
ST16 3SA

- Q7** Can we advise the Trust that we currently can provide as many prints as possible(maybe for wards and departments to have their own ties) instead of just 1 generic print (i.e. the Trust name), and we have the facility and large storage to print ahead and store until delivery, so no lead times, is this of interest?
- A7 Thank you for the information
- Q8** Can we advise the Trust we can supply references if needed from the many Trusts we already supply, is this of interest?
- A8 Yes, this is of interest only if required

*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.

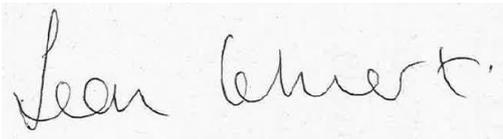
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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

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

Jean Lehnert
Data, Security & Protection Manager