



**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 2023/24-607

Date: 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024

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

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 8th December 2023 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding network.

On 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023 we contacted you via email as in order to continue with your request we require clarification whether you mean this request for a NHS Trust or a Council”?

On 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023 you replied via email with:  
*‘This FOI request is intended at the NHS Trust and not the council.’*

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 Please could you assist me by sending information regarding the following:**
- **Please can you direct me to the authority's current IT Network strategy?**
  - **What does the Trust currently use for their Networks (Wifi/LAN/SD-WAN)?**
  - **Who are you currently working with for your Networks?**
  - **When does that contract come up to an end?**
  - **What does the council consider most important when reviewing their Network Strategy?**
  - **Who is the best contact around this area?**

A1 See below:

• Please can you direct me to the authority's current IT Network strategy?	The Trust's network is currently outsourced as part of the PFI arrangement
• What does the Trust currently use for their Networks (Wifi/LAN/SD-WAN)?	The Trust's network is currently outsourced as part of the PFI arrangement
• Who are you currently working with for your Networks?	The Trust's network is currently outsourced as part of the PFI arrangement via Nasstar for Royal Stoke



	and PSTG for County site.
• When does that contract come up to an end?	Contracts cease on the 19.6.2024 when the service will be managed by an internal IT Network team for the Trust.
• What does the council consider most important when reviewing their Network Strategy?	The FOI Act 2000 is for the release of information that is held/recorded and does not cover the opinions of persons regarding suppliers, systems or procedures, therefore this information is not held.
• Who is the best contact around this area?	<a href="mailto:David.Tudor@uhnm.nhs.uk">David.Tudor@uhnm.nhs.uk</a> (Head of Service Delivery)

Note: I can confirm that the Trust holds information regarding these questions as UHNM answers on a regular basis, you may find further responses of interest on the below link, however UHNM 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/>

\*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](http://www.ico.org.uk).

Yours,



**Rachel Montinaro**  
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records