



Ref: FOIA Reference 2021/22-360

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

Date: 26th November 2021

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 13th October 2021 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Pathology Lab Information.

On the same day we contacted you via email as we required a timeframe in order to collate the information.

On 14th October 2021 you replied via email with:

'Please can you give me an example by looking at for instance the volume of tests performed from 1st Jan 2020 – 1st Jan 2021?'

Albeit this is during the COVID period, it should suffice to give me some sort of idea of the volume of work being carried out by the labs (even if this is perhaps more than during more "normal" times, which is the aim of this question.'

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 My Company Werfen are a supplier to numerous NHS organisations for IVD Path Lab equipment. I have recently joined our company as an Information Technology specialist, intending to help bring to market new Software Solutions (Laboratory Information System – Otherwise known as a 'LIS' or 'LIMS') that we feel will be extremely beneficial to our clients.

Subsequently, as I am getting everything ready to launch and share information about our solutions with clients, I wanted to take steps to make sure we only send pertinent information to Trusts at a time that is appropriate (I don't want to become a pest) and so I am reaching out to try and get some feedback that should help me qualify a number of things. I have put together a short list of questions below that I would ask for you to consider by way of a freedom of information request. If you can provide any feedback with these that would be brilliant and would help me identify when and how best to serve your hospitals with information about the things we are about to launch that could help.

Q1. Which Hospitals within your Trust run their own Pathology Labs or Departments?

- A1 UHNM host pathology units on behalf of the North Midlands and Cheshire Pathology Services at RSUH (Hub), County, Leighton and Macclesfield Hospitals
- Q2 At these labs what LIS / LIMS Solution do you use to manage the day-to-day operations?**
- A2 Clinisys Labcentre
- Q3 When are your LIS / LIMS contracts up for renewal?**
- A3 We have procured a new LIMS solution (Clinisys Winpath Enterprise) in 2019 and are currently in the process of deploying this across the NMCPS.
- Q4 Which of the 29 Regional Pathology Networks do your hospitals belong to?**
- A4 North 8
- Q5 Are you planning to replace your LIS / LIMS at any point in any of your hospitals in the near future? Are there any plans to move to a Pathology Network wide LIS / LIMS for instance (and if so – can you state at this time which Solution)?**
- A5 We have procured a new LIMS solution (Clinisys Winpath Enterprise) in 2019 as part of the NMCPS Business case and are currently in the process of deploying this across the NMCPS
- Q6 Do your Labs work with or have ties to other organisations that mean they work as a part of another Pathology collaborative (and will this impact how your labs your work within the Regional Pathology Network that they have been assigned to)?**
- A6 Shrewsbury and Telford (SaTH) are part of the North 8 network. NMCPS are currently working with SaTH to produce a business case to include the SaTH pathology units into the pathology network
- Q7 What LAS (Lab Automation Systems) do you have in each of your Labs?**
- A7 RSUH – Blood Sciences Siemens Track, Microbiology; COPAN WASP Lab, Roche COBAS 8800 molecular, Roche Cobas Pro 801. Histopathology; Sakura Smart automation.

Leighton/Macclesfield Blood Sciences – Beckman
- Q8 What Middleware solutions do your Labs use if any?**
- A8 See below:
- Siemens CentraLink (RSUH/County)
 - Roche Infinity (RSUH)
 - Biomerieux Myla (RSUH)
 - Beckman (Macclesfield / Leighton)
- Q9 How many tests per year do your Labs do?**
- A9 See below:
- Blood Transfusion: 156238
 - Biochemistry: 15,698,022

- Haematology: 13,193,576
- Microbiology: 587405
- Virology: 543473
- Immunology: 102678
- Histology: 35195

*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.

If following review of the responses I can be of any further assistance please contact my secretary on 01782 671612.

Yours,



University Hospitals
of North Midlands
NHS Trust

Jean Lehnert
Data, Security & Protection Manager

