



Ref: FOIA Reference 2023/24-136

Date: 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023

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

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 5th June 2023 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding cataract referrals.

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 I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information from your Trust. Please may you provide me with an answer to the following?**

**Please detail the number of referrals to cataract clinics at your Trust in each of the following years:**

- a. 23/24 (YTD)
- b. 22/23
- c. 21/22

**Please could the above be split by referrer/referral source (i.e. by GP practice, optometric practice etc.)**

**Please provide the information in an email, Excel or Word document (whichever is most convenient)**

A1 Unfortunately the referral information held in the data warehouse does not contain the reason for the referral or the clinic it is been referred too, the lowest level of information is specialty, so all we would know is the number of referrals to Ophthalmology.

We have therefore looked at the new patients who have been given appointment dates in the following clinics to identify referrals.

Referral Source	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Grand Total
Allied Health Professional – external other provider	2	10	4	16

Allied Health Professional – internal same provider	3	1	1	5
Consultant – external other provider	1	1		2
Consultant – internal same provider	11	13	3	27
GP Referral	733	538	50	1321
National Screening Programme	1		1	2
Optometrist	32	81	25	138
Orthoptist	1			1
Other Source of Referral	9	28	43	80
Referred from Other Organisation	1			1
Grand Total	794	672	127	1593

\*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).

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

Yours,



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