



Ref: FOIA Reference 2023/24-540

Date: 5th December 2023

Email foi@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 16th November 2023 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Physician Associates (PAs)

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 am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for the period August 2022 - August 2023 regarding the employment and related details of Physician Associates (PAs) within your Trust. I believe this information is essential for public interest, transparency, and to better understand the role of PAs within the healthcare system. Please provide the information in digital media, specifically PDF, Excel, or Word documents.

To facilitate the processing of my request, please provide the following details:

1. Number of Physician Associates (PAs) Employed:

- Please provide the total number of Physician Associates employed in your Trust for the stated time period.

A1 Nine (9)

Q2 Average Annual Salary of PAs:

- Please disclose the average annual salary, or salary range, for Physician Associates employed in your Trust for the stated time period, and a breakdown of how many PAs are on each Agenda for Change pay band.

A2 See below:

Row Labels	Average of Actual Salary
Physician Associate	36359.39

Q3 Average Weekly Working Hours:

- Specify the average number of hours worked per week by Physician Associates employed at your Trust for the stated time period, and the average number of hours worked outside of the 9am-5pm time range.

A3 See below: We do not have the data available for the average number of hours worked outside 9am-5pm as it is recorded on the rostering system

Row Labels	Average of Contract Hours
Physician Associate	37.5

Q4 Job Duties and Responsibilities:
- Provide a detailed description of the job duties and responsibilities of Physician Associates within your Trust for the stated time period.

A4 See attached

Q5 Supervision and Accessibility:
- Clarify what profession and grade are supervising Physician Associates and whether PAs at your Trust are able to attend work if their supervising clinician is not immediately contactable by them.

A5 See below:

Consultant Acute Physician
B8 CLINICAL RESEARCH MATRON
B8 HD OF PHYSIOTHERAPY
B8 MATRON EMERG MED
Consultant Acute Medical Unit
Consultant Acute Stroke/Physician

Q6 Role in Filling Rota Gaps:
- Indicate whether Physician Associates at your Trust are permitted to fill rota gaps left by GMC Registered Medical Doctors. If so, specify the grade of doctors they are authorised to cover for.

A6 No

Q7 Hourly Rates for Bank Shifts:
- Please provide the hourly rate range paid to Physician Associates working bank shifts at your Trust for the stated time period. Break down this range according to years of service if applicable.

A7 Not applicable as they do not work Doctor bank shifts

Q8 Prospective Employment:

- Please disclose the number of Physician Associates your Trust plans to employ in the next 5 years, or business cases out for employing PAs in the next 5 years.

A8 We have no current plans to expand the PA workforce.

*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.

Yours,



University Hospitals
of North Midlands
NHS Trust

Rachel Montinaro
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records

