



Ref: FOIA Reference 2022/23-359

Date: 4<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 28th September 2022 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Hotels and taxis.

On the same day we contacted you via email as we required the following clarification:  
For part C of the question are you referring to the cohort of patients who would have either had hotels or transport funded, as per parts A & B. Or are you after the details that relate to ALL patients who were outsourced and which hospitals they were outsourced too.

Also we need you to clarify what you mean by “out of area”, we class “our area” as Staffordshire, therefore are you referring to patients who were outsourced outside of Staffordshire?

On 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022 you replied via email with:  
*‘For part C of the question are you referring to the cohort of patients who would have either had hotels or transport funded, as per parts A & B. Or are you after the details that relate to ALL patients who were outsourced and which hospitals they were outsourced too.*

**Yes, I'm referring only to those who had hotels or transport funded as per parts A and B.**

*Also we need you to clarify what you mean by “out of area”, we class “our area” as Staffordshire, therefore are you referring to patients who were outsourced outside of Staffordshire?*

#### **Outside of Staffordshire’**

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 1) How many people were provided with a) accommodation in hotels and b) taxis as part of government plans to reduce the waiting list by sending patients to out-of-area hospitals from January 1st 2022 to the date of this email?**

A1 Zero

**Q2 Please tell me a) the total number of nights in a hotel funded over this period and b) the total number of taxi journeys funded, as well as c) the types of medical procedures that were 'outsourced' in this way to out-of-area services and the names of the hospitals that carried them out**

A2 See below:

2a – Zero

2b – Zero

2c – bariatric bypass and sleeves at Burcot Hall Hospital

**Q3 What was the total cost of a) the hotels and b) the taxis?**

A3 Zero

**Q4 Please tell me a) the THREE most expensive amounts paid per single night of accommodation in a hotel, and tell me the names and addresses of the establishments and b) please also state the THREE biggest amounts spent on taxi rides and the starting point and destination of each of these rides.**

**NOTE: Please note that in Question 4 I do not want a specific address as this may breach the patient's data protection rights, so I am content for you to provide me with an approximation of where the start point was that is accurate yet vague enough not to disclose the patient's identity.**

A4 See below:

4a – Zero

4b – Not applicable

\*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](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,



Leah Carlisle  
**Head of Data, Security & Protection/ Data Protection Officer**