

Ref: FOIA Reference 2019/20-691

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

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> August 2020

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

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Information Technology.

***The University Hospitals of North Midlands Trust is committed to the Freedom of Information Act 2000.***

***However, the NHS is facing unprecedented challenges relating to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic at the current time. Understandably, our resources have been diverted to support our front-line colleagues who are working tremendously hard to provide care for our patients, and to those in need of our services.***

***We strive to be transparent and to work with an open culture. But at this time, whilst care of our patients and the safety of our staff takes precedent, it is likely that responses to some requests for information will be delayed. We apologise for this position in advance, and will endeavour to provide you with as much information as we can, as soon as we are able.***

***The Information Commissioners Office has recognised the current situation in the NHS.***

Release of this information for question 4 potentially puts the Trust at risk and therefore is exempted under section 24(1) which states "Information which does not fall within section 23(1) is exempt information if the exemption from section 1(1) (b) 2 is required for the purpose of safeguarding national security." Furthermore withholding this information is also supported by the Freedom of Information Amendment (Terrorism and Criminal Intelligence) Act 2004

Under section 16 of the FOI Act we are required to provide requestors with advice and assistance where possible. We would therefore like to advise you that we can comply with your request if your questions are reduced to what are not subject to the above exemption.

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 Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 I seek the following information:**

**Are the Data Centre's operated by or for the organisation fit for purpose? For example, is there a Business Continuity Plan, is there Disaster Recovery in place or is it a single site?**

**A1 Please refer to the attached spread sheet.**

- Q2** Is there any capital investment in data centres planned in the next 36 months? For example, Mechanical & Electrical or refresh of equipment within the DC such as network, storage area network?
- A2 As answer 1
- Q3** Is data privacy and or information security compliance a priority for the organisation's board?
- A3 As answer 1
- Q4** On your Organisation's risk register, are there any Information Technology related risks?  
i) If time/ cost allows, please list the top three related risks.
- A4 Section 23 and 24 exemptions as detailed above. Refer to the attached spread sheet
- Q5** Are the cyber security vulnerabilities within the organisation's existing Information Technology estate increasing  
i) Has the organisation had a security breach in the past 12 months?
- A5 As answer 1
- Q6** Did the organisation meet its Information Technology savings target in the last Financial Year?
- A6 As answer 1
- Q7** What percentage of Information Technology budget is currently allocated to "on-premises" capability vs "cloud" capability?
- A7 As answer 1
- Q8** Does the organisation have the skills and resource levels necessary for moving to the cloud?
- A8 As answer 1
- Q9** Do you have an EPR in place? – If so which one? If not do you have a timescale of which you have to implement it?
- A9 As answer 1
- Q10** In relation to contracts with Amazon Web Services, Microsoft for Azure and/or Google for Google Cloud, was the monthly expenditure higher than budgeted?  
i) If yes, has the organisation been able to subsequently reduce the cost whilst maintaining service levels for users?

I would prefer to receive this information electronically, preferably as a data set, e.g. in Excel, NOT as a PDF. If the decision is made to withhold some of this data using exemptions in the Data Protection Act, please inform me of that fact and cite the exemptions used.

A10 As answer 1

\*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 676474.

Yours,



Jean Lehnert  
**Data, Security & Protection Manager**