



Ref: FOIA Reference 2022/23-657

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

Date: 28th February 2023

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 13th February 2023 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding EPRR Team contact information

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 conducting a study of the emergency preparedness of NHS Acute Trusts in England. I am using the emergency and disaster management module of the Hospital Safety Index checklist of the World Health Organisation. The study is part of an MSc in Crisis & Disaster Management at the University of Portsmouth.

Following a recent Information Commissioner's decision, given here:

<https://ico.org.uk/media/action-weve-taken/decision-notices/2023/4023596/ic-204648-c9l6.pdf>

I am writing to request a contact e-mail address for the Trust's Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response staff in order that I can discuss seeking further information for my study from them.

Please note that I am not requesting any personal information that would breach data protection rules.

A1 The FOI Act is in place to answer corporate information that is in the public interest, staff at an Acute hospital would expect their information not to be released to the general public for them to be contacted to discuss process outside of the review process set in place by the Trust, therefore we are refusing this request.

The exemption which has been relied upon is section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 with regards to the name, job title email address of the individual. The disclosure of this information is subject to balancing the legitimate interest to disclose against the rights of the individuals. Upon balancing these two factors, we have found that the

rights of the individual outweigh the legitimate interest to disclose. Therefore, it would be unfair to the data subject if this information is disclosed. The disclosure of the name, job title, and email address would not add anything further to this request for information.

Furthermore, it would be unfair to disclose the name, job title, email address of the individual to the general public. The individual would expect a right to privacy. They would only expect that their name, job title and email address are disclosed to the relevant people in connection with Trust business and also in relation to the discharge of the responsibilities involved in their post. It would not be reasonable to disclose their name, job title and email address to the general public. Furthermore, the release of this information may also lead to a greater number of unsolicited correspondences.

The first condition under section 40(3A) has been contravened as it would not be fair to disclose the name, job title, and email address of the individual. Therefore, the name, job title, number and email address of the individual, has been withheld.

*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.

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