



Ref: FOIA Reference 2021/22-577

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

Date: 17th February 2021

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 15th February 2022 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Purchase ledger

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.

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 In total, how many purchase ledger invoices (volumes), did University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust process in the last financial year (i.e. 2020/21)?

A1 118,098

Q2 Do you currently use / have you within the last four years used any third-party companies to carry out a duplicate payments / purchase ledger statement review?

- a. If so, please specify the name of the third-party company.
- b. Please confirm the dates of which the review was carried out.
- c. How many years of data was reviewed? Please specify the dates.
- d. Please confirm total identified value and volume of claims.

- e. Please confirm total recovered value and volume of claims.
 - i. Please provide a breakdown of the values and volumes between the following categories:
 - 1. Duplicates / errors
 - 2. VAT
 - 3. Statements / credits
 - 4. Other
- f. How much did the third-party company invoice University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust for any review work undertaken?
- g. When is the next audit expected to take place?

A2 See below:

- a. Liaison Financial Services
- b. Duplicate review 25/02/20 – 12/11/21 and Statement review 08/11/19 – 10/12/20
- c. M1 14/15 to M8 19/20
- d. £584,614.64 (331 claims)
- e. £346,736.60 (217 claims)
 - 1. £415,318.73 (298 claims)
 - 2. Included in above – no split available
 - 3. £169,295.91 (33 claims)
 - 4. Included in above – no split available
- f. Liaison charge 20% of each recovered claim.
- g. 2nd wave of the review is currently underway.

Q3 Does University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust currently use any software in order to detect and prevent duplicate payments?

- a. If so, please specify:
 - i. The name of the software used
 - ii. The name of the company who provides the software
 - iii. How long the service is contracted for
 - iv. The expiry date of the contract
 - v. The total contract cost

A3 See below:

- a.
 - i. eFinancials
 - ii. Advanced Business Solutions
 - iii. 5 years
 - iv. October 2022
 - v. No cost available – included with main shared service contract.

*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.

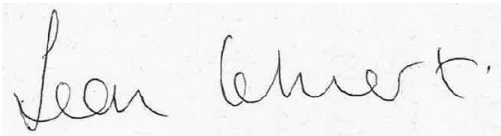
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and 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.

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

Yours,



Jean Lehnert
Data, Security & Protection Manager