



Ref: FOIA Reference 2021/22-296

Date: 28th September 2021

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 1st September 2021 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding exorcism.

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 Does the NHS Trust have procedures where it asks religious people to carry exorcisms on patients, and if so is this a frequent practice. I understand this is a rare medical practice which happens sometimes at hospitals for patients with mental health problems.

Please provide the information in the form:

Has the NHS Trust ever carried out exorcism on patients, using spiritual leaders from different faith groups, as a form of medical practice/treatment?

A1 No

Q2 Does it have this as a medical option to treat patients in need?

A2 No

Q3 If these are carried out, please state how have been done so in the past five years?

A3 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.

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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.

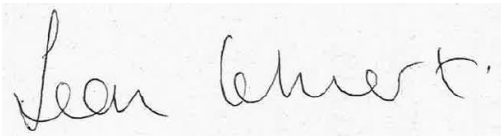
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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