



Ref: FOIA Reference 2022/23-502

Date: 2nd December 2022

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 30th November 2022 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding number of falls

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 completing a study on the management of the fallen patient within NHS Trusts across the country and I would be grateful if you could provide me with the following information as part of a Freedom of Information request.

1) Within your Trust who is responsible for ensuring that the Trust has the appropriate equipment for the management of falls? This should not be confused with a procurement team purchasing the equipment more that makes the clinical decision. (Often this will sit with a Manual Handling Advisor or fall lead)

A1 The corporate nursing team have overseen the purchase of flat lifting equipment for use following in patient falls. This was done in conjunction with the trust manual handling advisor. The corporate nursing team oversee daily checking of the equipment to ensure its availability in the event of an inpatient fall.

Q2 Within your Trust, if known, please could you confirm the number of falls reported in total for 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 to current date of recorded data?

A2 See below:

Calendar Year	Number of reported patient falls
2019	2602
2020	2388
2021	2512
2022 up to 31 st October 2022	2365

Q3 Of those falls, if known, please can you confirm the number of falls that were deemed as non-injury?

A3 See below:

Calendar Year	Number of patient falls reported as resulting in No Harm
2019	1850
2020	1685
2021	1671
2022 up to 31 st October 2022	1545

Q4 At any site within your Trust, do you have a falls response team/bleep where a designated person(s) respond to a reported fall?

A4 There is no designated falls response team.

Q5 Does your Trust have any of the following equipment within the Trust and if so how many?

- Flat Lifting Kit – Mangar Rhino, Hovertech Hoverjac, GBUK Banana Flojac
- Mechanical Lifting Aid – Liftup Raizer Chair
- Air Assisted Lifting Aid – Mangar Elk, Camel or Eagle
- Any other equipment used for the retrieval of the fallen patient

A5 Both sites have access to a number of Hoverjac's

*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

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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,



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