

Ref: FOIA Reference 2020/21-228

Date: 9<sup>th</sup> October 2020

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

Dear

I am writing in response to your emails dated 13<sup>th</sup> September 2020 (received into our office 14<sup>th</sup> September) requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding staff deaths from Covid- please note that you sent this identical request twice to UHNM , but we will be responding once.

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 I would be most grateful if you would supply me with the following information.**

**1. The total number of your workforce as a whole.**

A1 As at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020, the headcount of permanent and fixed term employees was 11076.

**Q2 The total number of staff who have died FROM Covid 19 within your organisation**

A2 I can confirm that the Trust holds information regarding staff deaths for Covid -19, but feel this information is exempt under section 21: *information reasonably accessible by other means*. This is because the information is available via the Trust's public website at the following link: FOI's ref 093-2021 (June) and 215-2021 (August)

<http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/about-us/regulatory-information/freedom-of-information-publication-scheme/freedom-of-information-disclosure-log/>

**Q3 The total number of staff who have been admitted to hospital as a result of Covid 19.**

A3 This is not recorded in staff records as we only record the absence episode. There is no data on whether the staff member was later admitted to hospital.

**Q4 The total number of staff who have been properly diagnosed with Covid 19 not requiring hospitalisation.**

A4 We do not record absences diagnosed as covid-19 not requiring hospitalisation. We only record absences reported as being "due to Covid-related symptoms" – there is no further recording of the outcome of any testing against each absence episode.

**Q5 The total number of staff who have had to take time off work through isolation procedures not counting when the offices were actually closed.**

A5 The Trust does not record the cumulative number of staff who have taken a period of self-isolation or shielding, but measures the data at a point in time. There are currently 115 staff shielding or self-isolating (excluding those employees who are shielding, but working from home).

\*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.

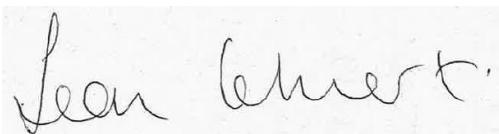
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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





**University Hospitals  
of North Midlands**  
NHS Trust

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

