

Ref: FOIA Reference 2024/25-118

Date: ** ***** 2021

Email foi@uhn.nhs.uk

Commented [c1]: Only add at final draft

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your emails dated 23rd January 2024 ,12th March 2024 and 17th May requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding critical incident ,GP booking times and skin cancer.

On 25th January 2024 we contacted you via email with the following:

To continue with your request we require clarification on the following:

If the request is for solely when UHNM declared an incident, or it includes the dates when NHS England declared either a national Level 4, or a Regional Level 3 Incident for COVID, as these are technically a Major Incident,

On 30th January 2024 you replied via email with:

'Thanks for getting in touch. In response to your request for clarification. I am only looking for days that UHNM declared an incident, not NHS England.'

On 12th March 2024 we replied via email with:

UHNM has received several requests that are asking for similar information that are from the same person/company, therefore we are contacting you to inform you that under section 12 of the FOI Act we were aggregating these requests on critical incident and HIMSS and GP appointment waiting times.

Your new reference number for both is 862-2324.

On 17th May 2024 you sent in another request, we advised you that all 3 requests would be aggregated and the start date on the previous 2 would re-start as of today.

The reference number for all 3 would be 118-2425.

The section 12 exemption states:

The authority can combine related requests received within a period of 60 consecutive days from:

- The same person or
- People who appear to be acting in concert or in pursuance of a campaign.

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.

Request #1

Q1 On how many days did your NHS Trust declare a major and/or critical incident in each of the calendar years a) 2019, b) 2020, c) 2021, d) 2022, e) 2023

A1 These are dates that UHNM declared incidents (either Critical or Major Incidents), not including National L4 or Regional L3 incidents declared by NHS England.

				No of deaths
A	2019	7 days	2 - 3 July	16
			01-Aug	9
			12 – 15 Nov	31
B	2020	3 Days	23-Jan	3
			22-Jul	4
			28-Dec	3
C	2021	3 Days	26-Jul	5
			19-Sep	7
			22-Oct	9
D	2022	14 days	03-Feb	9
			9 – 10 Feb	17
			02-Mar	11
			28 Apl	9
			18 – 19 May	19
			31-May	12
			8 – 13 Dec	66
E	2023	13 days	12 – 17th Apl	42
			31 May – 1 Jun	15
			29 – 30 Jul	9

			19-Oct	12
			24-Oct	10
			31-Oct	10

Q2 On how many days did your NHS Trust not declare a major and/or critical incident in each of the calendar years a) 2019, b) 2020, c) 2021, d) 2022, e) 2023

A2 All dates NOT listed above
 2019 358 Days
 2020 363 Days (* leap year so 366 days total)
 2021 362 Days
 2022 351 Days
 2023 352 Days

Q3 How many deaths were recorded on days when your NHS Trust declared a major and/or critical incident in each of the calendar years a) 2019, b) 2020, c) 2021, d) 2022, e) 2023

A3 Answer - See table in Q1 for number of deaths.

Q4 How many deaths were recorded on days when your NHS Trust had not declared a major and/or critical incident in each of the calendar years a) 2019, b) 2020, c) 2021, d) 2022, e) 2023

A4 See below:
 2019 – 3468
 2020 – 3861
 2021 – 3626
 2022 – 3603
 2023 - 3602

For number of days mentioned in Q2

Request #2 (862-2324)

Q1 Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please can you provide me with information on GP appointment waiting times at your NHS Trust.

Mean average wait between booking a GP appointment and the GP appointment taking place in days at your NHS Trust in each of the years a) 2019, b) 2020, c) 2021, d) 2022, e) 2023

A1 Not applicable to UHNM as Acute Provider and not a GP Practice- note: we might employ GP's in ED but they will be working for the Trust in an acute capacity and not as a GP.

Q2 Number of patients waiting more than 42 days between booking a GP appointment and the GP appointment taking place at your NHS Trust in each of the years a) 2019, b) 2020, c) 2021, d) 2022, e) 2023



A2 As answer 1

Q3 Number of patients waiting more than 56 days between booking a GP appointment and the GP appointment taking place at your NHS Trust in each of the years a) 2019, b) 2020, c) 2021, d) 2022, e) 2023

A3 As answer 1

Q4 Number of patients waiting more than 182 days between booking a GP appointment and the GP appointment taking place at your NHS Trust in each of the years a) 2019, b) 2020, c) 2021, d) 2022, e) 2023

A4 As answer 1

Q5 Number of patients waiting more than 365 days between booking a GP appointment and the GP appointment taking place at your NHS Trust in each of the years a) 2019, b) 2020, c) 2021, d) 2022, e) 2023

A5 As answer 1

Q6 The longest time a patient has currently been waiting between booking a GP appointment and the GP appointment taking place in days at your NHS Trust

A6 As answer 1

Request #3 (118-2425)

Q1 Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please can you provide me with information on skin cancer treatment times.

The number of patients who were on a waiting list at your Trust to start treatment following an urgent referral for any type of skin cancer for the each of the following financial years a) 2019/2020, b) 2020/21, c) 2021/22, d) 2022/2023 e) 2023/24

A1 We have looked at the end of each fiscal year as requested and identified the skin patients on the cancer PTL with a Decision to Treat waiting for treatment

2020/21 - 142
2021/22 - 382
2022/23 - 140
2023/24 - 116

Q2 The number of patients who were on a waiting list at your Trust following an urgent referral for any type of skin cancer who waited longer than i) 62-days, ii) six-months, iii) 12-months to start treatment for the each of the following financial years a) 2019/2020, b) 2020/21, c) 2021/22, d) 2022/2023 e) 2023/24

A2 We are unable to provide the information you require in the requested format as to release this data could lead to the identification of the person(s) involved due to the low numbers involved,

and would breach the Trusts obligations under Data Protection Act 2018. Accordingly, this aspect of your request is exempt from disclosure under the terms of Section 40(2) of the FOI Act. *Personal information*. However as the Trust is committed to openness and transparency we can band the numbers as being <5
This exemption is an absolute exemption and therefore no consideration of the public interest test is needed.

We have identified the skin patients treated and grouped them as shown below

Year	Treated over 62 days	Treated over 182 days (6 months)	Treated over 365 days (12 months)
2020/21	60	0	0
2021/22	140	<5	0
2022/23	238	8	0
2023/24	153	8	0

Q3 The longest a patient waited who was on a waiting list at your Trust following an urgent referral for any type of skin cancer to start treatment in the financial year 2023/24

A3 For 2023/24 the longest wait was 259 days

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

UHNH 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, Wycliff House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF or via www.ico.org.uk.

Yours,



Rachel Montinaro
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records