Ref: FOIA Reference 2022/23-386

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

Date: 7th November 2022

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 12th October 2022 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Remote Monitoring and Virtual Wards

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 **1.Does your organisation use remote monitoring tools to help patients to manage their health and care at home?**

A1 Yes we do use remote monitoring tools to help patients to manage their health and care at home

Q2 **Has your organisation extended the use of remote monitoring to utilise solutions to proactively manage the next steps of care for patients being treated in the home, such as using a task management system/virtual ward*?**

A2 Yes – as part of the Virtual Ward programme

Q3 **If yes, does the organisation use any suppliers to support the process of providing virtual wards?**

   a. Please state the name of the supplier/supplier's.

   b. Please provide the annual cost for the above supplier contract for the financial year 20/21 to 21/22 (April 2021- March 2022)

A3 The name of the Supplier we are currently using for our COPD Virtual Ward is – NePesmo. This is for the use of digital tool – COPD Predict Application

   The Supplier Cost does not cover 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 as the Contract started March 2022

Q4 **Does the organisation have a dedicated in-house virtual ward team?**

a. If yes, is this made up of existing resource or additional capacity?

A4   No – we are developing a system-wide virtual ward solution not a specific team dedicated to the organisation

Q5   Could you please provide the name and job title of the person who is responsible for the management of virtual wards?

A5   Lesley Roberts, Head of Operations for Acute Care at Home

Q6   What specialties are Virtual Wards currently implemented in? (Tick for yes)

If Yes, How many virtual "beds" are currently operating in total and in each speciality?

Please state the number of beds the organisation has in total for each speciality.

Total

- **Mental Health**
- **Cardiology**
- **Dermatology**
- **Diabetes**
- **Endocrinology**
- **Gastroenterology**
- **Geriatric Medicine**
- **Gynaecology**
- **Hepatology**
- **Neurology**
- **Oncology**
- **Ophthalmology**
- **Palliative medicine**
- **Paediatrics services**
- **Physiotherapy**
- **Rehabilitation**
- **Renal medicine**
- **Respiratory**
- **Rheumatology**
- **Colorectal surgery**
- **Breast Surgery Service**
- **Ear, Nose and Throat**
- **General Surgery**
- **Orthopaedics and Trauma**
- **Orthoptics**
- **Pain management**
- **Plastic surgery**
- **Thoracic medicine**
- **Urology**
- **Vascular surgery**
- **Audiology Service**

- **Other- Please state which**

*Virtual wards allow patients to be treated in their own homes rather than in hospital. In a virtual ward, support can include remote monitoring using apps, technology platforms, wearables and medical devices and face to face care

A6   No for the above list, however, General Acute and Frailty Virtual Ward are currently operating 50 wards but extending to 200 wards by March 2023.COPDPredict (ARI) Virtual Ward are currently operating 10 but extending to 30 by March 2023.
       These virtual wards are in-line with the NHSE requirements

*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