

Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-683

Royal Stoke University Hospital  
Quality, Safety and Compliance Department  
Newcastle Road  
Stoke-on-Trent  
Staffordshire  
ST4 6QG

Date: 21<sup>st</sup> March 2019

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

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 13<sup>th</sup> February 2019 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding MSRA and c. diff.

On 14<sup>th</sup> February 2019 we contacted you via email as we required the following clarification:  
Your request states 'point of care facilities' can you please confirm what you mean by this phrase?  
Your request states 'using the additional funding for additional diagnostic equipment and staff capacity' can you identify which funding you are referring to?

On 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019 you replied via email with the following:  
*'By point of care I mean: Clinical point of care is the point in time when clinicians deliver healthcare products and services to patients at the time of care.'*

*The funding I am referring to is the additional government funding for diagnostics, as detailed in the 5 year AMR strategy; 'Tackling antimicrobial resistance 2019–2024'*

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 Draft Freedom of Information request to all NHS Trusts**

**To be mapped against deaths from MRSA and c. diff in each NHS Trust area.**

**1. What point of care facilities does your Trust have for the diagnosis of?**

- a. Group A streptococcal bacteria**
- b. Influenza virus**
- c. Clostridium difficile**
- d. Staphylococcus aureus**

A1 We do not have point of care tests for any of the above.

**Q2 Does your Trust require diagnostic tests before prescribing?**

- a. Penicillins**
- b. Aminoglycosides**

- c. Tetracyclines
- d. Macrolides
- e. Co-amoxiclav
- f. Cephalosporins
- g. Carbapenems
- h. Quinolones

A2 No, for all the above.

**Q3 What plans do your Trust have to procure new diagnostic equipment using the additional funding for additional diagnostic equipment and staff capacity?**

A3 At the Trust we already have a comprehensive range of technologies and analytical systems. We have no plans at present to procure any additional microbiology equipment above that already used.

\*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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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 676474.



University Hospitals  
of North Midlands  
NHS Trust

Yours,

*L Carlisle*

Leah Carlisle  
Deputy Head of Quality, Safety & Compliance

