



Ref: FOIA Reference 2022/23-650

Date: 9th March 2023

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 9th February 2023 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding consultancy services

On the same day we contacted you via email as we require clarification on Q1 are you specifically asking in relation to analysis?

You replied via email with:
'It is general spending on hospital processes and efficiency, though if you are able to provide the breakdown on analysis that too would be helpful'.

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 How much money was spent on external consultancy services to help improve hospital processes and efficiency for the tax years 2012 to 2022?

A1 UHNM's External consultancy spend for the timeframe requested = £1,692,000

Q2 Has your organisation directly employed during the period of 2012 to 2022 data analysis's and or statisticians (not through consultancy services nor through academic access)?

Statisticians: Yes or No

Data analysts: Yes or No

A2 Statisticians: No

Data analysts: Yes

Q3 If yes, to question 2, did they facilitate non-research hospital governance and improvement activity and/or data analytics for the NHS?

A3 Statisticians: Not applicable

Data analysts: Yes.

Q4 Does your hospital currently have an improvement/development team?

No

Yes, and it does not include data analysts or statisticians

Yes, and it includes data analysts or statisticians.

A4 Yes – UHNM invested in a permanently appointed Quality Improvement Academy Team. Specialist training improvement practitioners responsible for training and coaching out the improvement culture and system for the Trust. This team came into post in March 2020, were trained during that first 12months and now deliver this programme independently.

There are no data analysts directly employed within the team. The programme is however based on being data driven, evidence based and in recognition of the increasing requirement for data access, presentation and analysis additional data analyst posts were funded by the same business case. These posts sit within the information team and are aligned to Divisions to support their data needs.

Q5 Which group of employees carries out the majority of governance and improvement projects? a) doctors, b) nurses, c) doctors and nurses, d) a specific team.

A5 This is across the board so will encompass a multitude of different staff.

*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,



Rachel Montinaro
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records