



Ref: FOIA Reference 2021/22-202

Date: 24<sup>th</sup> August 2021

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

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 7th July 2021 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Royal College Reviews

As of 1<sup>st</sup> November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHM) 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 am writing to request the following information through the Freedom of Information Act.**

**1. Any Royal College Reviews/ Reports for Royal Stoke University Hospital within the past 5 years**

A1 We are unable to provide some of the information you require 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*. In addition, the Trust has determined whether disclosure of this information would have a detrimental effect, as defined by the section 41(1)(a)(b) exemption: *Provided in confidence*, and has refused this request on the grounds that it could prejudice the effective conduct of public affairs and inhibit free and frank discussion.

Please note: We have consulted with the Trust legal team. An independent review has also been undertaken by an executive member of the Trust, who has upheld our response.

See attached document, note: Some information within the document has been redacted. This is because it is exempt under section 40(2) of the FOI Act: *personal information*. The information could be used to identify individual patients and/or their representative and therefore has not been released.

\*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.

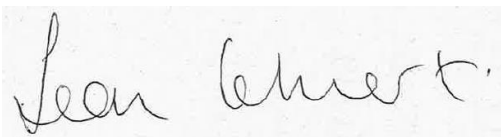
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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



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