



**University Hospitals
of North Midlands**
NHS Trust

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

Ref: FOIA Reference 2022/23-167

Date: 5th August 2022

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 24th June 2022 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding reporting of radiology & histology cases 2022.

The University Hospitals of North Midlands Trust is committed to the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

However, the NHS is facing unprecedented challenges relating to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic at the current time. Understandably, our resources have been diverted to support our front-line colleagues who are working tremendously hard to provide care for our patients, and to those in need of our services.

We strive to be transparent and to work with an open culture. But at this time, whilst care of our patients and the safety of our staff takes precedent, it is likely that responses to some requests for information will be delayed. We apologise for this position in advance, and will endeavour to provide you with as much information as we can, as soon as we are able.

The Information Commissioners Office has recognised the current situation in the NHS.

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 Subject: Reporting of histology cases

During the financial year 2021/22, please state which of the following arrangements were used for reporting histology cases which were not reported by employed or locum histopathologists during their contracted Programmed Activities (PAs). Please also state the amount spent in each category used.

- a) Payment to own consultants for additional work outside contracted PAs. Method used YES/ NO if YES £amount spent in year**
- b) Payment directly to another Trust/ NHS provider, or consultants employed by another Trust/ NHS provider for reporting. Method used YES/ NO if YES £amount spent in year**
- c) Payment to a commercial company for reporting. Method used YES/ NO if YES £amount spent in year**



If the answer to c) above was yes, please state which of the following companies was used, and the amount paid to each of the following companies in relation to financial year 2021/22.

- a) Backlogs Limited Company used YES/ NO if YES £amount spent in year
- b) Source Bioscience Company used YES/ NO if YES £amount spent in year
- c) LD Path Company used YES/ NO if YES £amount spent in year
- d) Cellular Pathology Services Company used YES/ NO if YES £amount spent in year
- e) Unilabs Company used YES/ NO if YES £amount spent in year
- f) Pathognomics Company used YES/ NO if YES £amount spent in year
- g) Digital Pathology Partners Company used YES/ NO if YES £amount spent in year
- h) Other – please state which company used YES/ NO if YES £amount spent in year

How many Whole Time Equivalent histopathology consultants were in post on 31/3/22?

A1 See below: Both sites but also includes Mid Cheshire Hospital Foundation Trust (MCHFT) and East Cheshire Trust (ECT) as part of the North Midlands and Cheshire Pathology Services (NMCPs) pathology network- note, UHNM control NMCPs pathology budget, the partner Trust (Mid and East) are charged a %split.

a) Payment to own consultants for additional work outside contracted PAs. Method used YES: if YES £amount spent in year	Yes £264600
b) Payment directly to another Trust/ NHS provider, or consultants employed by another Trust/ NHS provider for reporting. Method used	No
c) Payment to a commercial company for reporting. Method used YES if YES	YES £685209
If the answer to c) above was yes, please state which of the following companies was used and the amount paid to each of the following companies in relation to financial year 2021/22.	
a) Backlogs Limited Company used YES if £amount spent in year	Yes £54000
b) Source Bioscience Company used YES if £amount spent in year	Yes £520,007
c) LD Path Company used if YES £amount spent in year	No
d) Cellular Pathology Services if YES Company used £amount spent in year	NO
e) Unilab Company used if YES £amount spent in year	Yes £111,202
f) Pathognomics Company used if YES £amount spent in year	No
g) Digital Pathology Partners Company used if YES £amount spent in year	No
h) Other – please state which Company used if YES £amount spent in year	NO
How many Whole Time Equivalent histopathology	at 31st March 2022, we had 14.07 WTE

consultants were in post on 31/3/22?	Histopathology Consultants in post
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Q2 Subject: Reporting of radiology
During the financial year 2021/22, please state which of the following arrangements were used for reporting radiology cases which were not reported by employed or locum radiologists during their contracted Programmed Activities (PAs). Please also state the amount spent in each category used.

- a) Payment to own consultants for additional work outside contracted PAs. Method used YES/ NO if YES £amount spent in year
- b) Payment directly to another Trust/ NHS provider, or consultants employed by another Trust/ NHS provider for reporting. Method used YES/ NO if YES £amount spent in year
- c) Payment to a commercial company for reporting. Method used YES/ NO if YES £amount spent in year

If the answer to c) above was yes, please state which of the following companies was used, and the amount paid to each of the following companies in relation to financial year 2021/22.

- a) Medica plc Company used YES/ NO if YES £amount spent in year
- b) Telemedicine Clinic (TMC) Company used YES/ NO if YES £amount spent in year
- c) Radiology Reporting Online, also known as Everlight Company used YES/ NO if YES £amount spent in year
- d) Four Ways Company used YES/ NO if YES £amount spent in year
- e) Dulwich Medical Company used YES/ NO if YES £amount spent in year
- f) Other – please state which Company used YES/ NO if YES £amount spent in year

A2 See below:

1) Reporting of Radiology	
a) Payment to own consultants for additional work outside contracted PAs.	Yes, total amount spent in 2021/22: £329,689
b) Payment directly to another Trust/ NHS provider, or consultants employed by another Trust/ NHS provider for reporting.	No
c) Payment to a commercial company for reporting.	Yes total amount spent in 2021/22: 1,640,000
If the answer to c) above was yes, please state which of the following companies was used and the amount paid to each of the following companies in relation to financial year 2021/22.	Medica plc
d) , e), f)	Not applicable

*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.

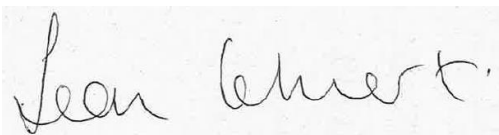
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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

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