



Ref: FOIA Reference 2022/23-735

Date: 28th April 2023

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 22nd March 2023 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding nitrous oxide

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 Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am requesting the following information about nitrous oxide monitoring:

Have you carried out nitrous oxide/Entonox personal sampling in your Trust?

- **If so, which departments have you carried out personal sampling in?**

A1 Monitoring has not been carried out since prior to the pandemic, although monitoring has been arranged with an external company to be carried out over May 3rd and 4th 2023. Personal and static monitoring has been planned to capture the levels at individual staff levels.

Once the monitoring has been completed, the findings will be communicated to the Maternity department and if any actions identified these will be implemented accordingly.

No the Trust has not suspended the use of Entonox at this time.

Q2 Did you find high results in any staff members?

If yes:

- **How many staff members were affected?**
- **What was the highest result you found?**
- **Were these staff members informed?**
- **What action was taken? (e.g. have you installed mobile destruction units?)**

A2 Once the monitoring has been completed, the findings will be communicated to the Maternity department and if any actions identified these will be implemented accordingly.

Q3 Have you suspended the use of Entonox at your Trust?

A3 No the Trust has not suspended the use of Entonox at this time.

*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,



Rachel Montinaro
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records



University Hospitals
of North Midlands
NHS Trust

