

Ref: FOIA Reference 2020/21-125

Date: 1st September 2020

Email: foi@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 16th July 2020 (received into our office 17th July 2020) requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding DPO banding

On 17th July we contacted you via email as under section 8(1) of the FOI Act, requestors are required to provide a full name in order to make a request valid. The Information Commissioner states that a "title and/or first name with surname satisfies the requirement for provision of a real name, as does the use by a female applicant of her maiden name". Therefore, in order to proceed with your request can you please supply us with a valid name?

On 24th August 2020 you replied via email with the following:

"Can I get an update on my request please - it's over the 20 days by some time."

We responded via email with the following:

We contacted you on 17th July 2020 asking you to identify yourself (as noted in the return heading on your email to us today) as under section 8(1) of the FOI Act, requestors are required to provide a full name in order to make a request valid. The Information Commissioner states that a "title and/or first name with surname satisfies the requirement for provision of a real name, as does the use by a female applicant of her maiden name". Therefore, in order to proceed with your request can you please supply us with a valid name? Once we have received this we will continue to process your request. If we do not hear from you within the next two months we will assume you no longer require this information and will close your request.

Under the FIO Act the "clock" stops whilst we are waiting for any clarification, therefore today is day one of your request.

We will continue with your request and will respond within the 20 day timeframe.

On our acknowledgment we added the following statement:

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 Could I please request the following information?

Banding for DPO?

A1 Band 8b

Q2 What is their position in the organisation?

A2 The Data, Security and Protection team (DSP) is part of IM&T Directorate, which is part of Central Functions Division. The Director of IM&T is also SIRO.

Q3 Who they report to?

A3 Line Manager is the Deputy Director of IM&T, (who is also the SIRO for the Trust)

Q4 JD for DPO

A4 Information currently unavailable- The job description is currently being reviewed

Q5 Is the DPO role independent or part of another role (i.e. IG Manager/ Trust Secretary)?

A5 DPO is part of another role – Head of Data, Security and Protection

Q6 If your DPO and IG Manager are separate could you advise on the banding for your IG lead/Manager?

A6 DSP Manager is B7

*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.

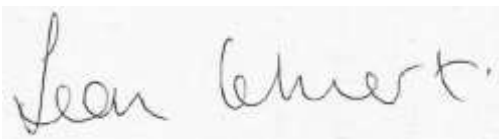
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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