



Ref: FOIA Reference 2020/21-003

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

Date: 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021

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

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 4<sup>th</sup> April 2020 (received into our office 6<sup>th</sup> April) requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding the Royal Infirmary site.

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.**

On 6<sup>th</sup> April 2020 we contacted you via email as we required a time frame in order to collate the information.

On the same day you replied via email with the following:

*"1. Please can I have the costs of keeping the Royal Infirmary site open? (From 01/04/2019 until 01/04/2020)*

*2. Please can I have the floor plan of the A&E at the Royal Infirmary site? March 2012"*

As of 1<sup>st</sup> 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 Please can I have the costs of keeping the Royal Infirmary site open?**

A1 I can confirm that the Trust holds information regarding costs of keeping the Royal Infirmary site open, but feel this information is exempt under section 21: *information reasonably*

*accessible by other means.* This is because the information is available via the following link: (ERIC for 2018/19).

<https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/estates-returns-information-collection/england-2018-19>

I can neither confirm nor deny that the Trust holds information regarding 2019/20, but feel this information is exempt under section 22: *Information for future publication*. (this information will be available at the above link as soon as approved by the Trust Board)

**Q2 Please can I have the floor plan of the A&E at the Royal Infirmary site?**

A2 I can neither confirm nor deny whether the information you have requested is held by the Trust. This is because the information requested is exempt under section 31(1) (a) *the prevention or detection of a crime*. The Trust determines that to disclose the floor plan of the A&E department at the Royal Infirmary site would prejudice the Trust's ability to prevent and react to possible theft/ vandalism and possible break-ins. The Trust has applied the public interest test to this request and feels that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

\*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.***

Where the Trust owns the copyright in information provided, you may re-use the information in line with the conditions set out in the Open Government Licence v3 which is available at <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>. Where information was created by third parties, you should contact them directly for permission to re-use the information.

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.

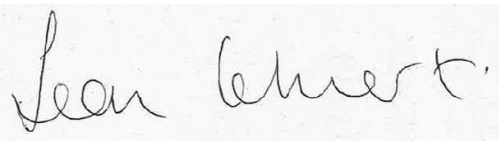
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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