

Ref: FOIA Reference 2024/25-459

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

Date: 5th February 2025

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear Sir/ Madam

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 10th October 2024 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Lloyds Pharmacy

Q1 Your Trust was contracted with Lloyds Pharmacy Healthcare Services Ltd for outpatient pharmacy services at the time that the firm ceased trading in the summer. You now need to find an alternative provider of outpatient pharmacy services. Please can you tell me whether the Trust has made a decision on a replacement provider for this service? And if so can you tell me what organisation you have contracted to provide the service?

A1 The Trust does have a new provider for outpatient pharmacy services. Our new provider is Rowlands Pharmacy.

Q2 Please provide me with the time an date, agenda and minutes of any meetings held by the Trust internally and with outside organisations (including other NHS organisations) on the subject of finding a replacement for LPHS, that took place after the announcement in August that that firm would no longer be providing the service to you.

A2 The Trust considers your request to be exempt from disclosure in accordance with section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act as to release this information would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of the Trust. 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, however we can share the below:

NHS England has been liaising with Lloyd's pharmacy directly regarding the contractual position across England as there are multiple NHS Providers affected. Please approach NHS England directly.

UHNM has monthly contract performance meetings in place which have been held throughout the contract. An introductory meeting regarding the novation was held on 22.10.2024 with attendees from Lloyd's pharmacy, Rowlands Pharmacy and UHNM Pharmacy and Supplies Department. Mobilisation tasks to be undertaken were discussed and regular meetings held weekly throughout December 2024. Separate meetings with the UHNM Lease Manager, Rowlands and LP HCS have commenced at the end of October 2024 and will continue. There is no formal agenda that can be sent though in relation to the lease and the mobilisation

meetings.

A briefing paper was prepared and presented to the Executive Team on 24.9.2024. A Pharmacy Directorate briefing paper to UHNM Performance and Finance Committee on the procurement of medicines included a section on the LP HCS contract novation.

*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.

Yours,





**University Hospitals
of North Midlands**
NHS Trust

Rachel Montinaro
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records

