



Ref: FOIA Reference 2020/21-526

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

Date: 22nd March 2021

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear,

I am writing in response to your email dated 16th February 2021 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding staffing.

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 23rd February 2021 we contacted you via email as we require clarification on Q2, what is meant by a Vendor Management System?

On 16th March 2021 you replied via email with:

“Apologies I missed this email until now. By a VMS I mean a system used to manage the booking of temporary staff - usually accessed by both the trust and a master vendor supplier of locums/nursing staff.”

As of 1st November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UJNM) 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 Do you outsource your Staff Bank to a third-party provider?

If you have answered yes, please also provide answers to the following questions, otherwise please stipulate ‘N/A’

a. Who is the provider that you have outsourced to? If different providers are used for different staffing groups, please state all, and indicate which staffing group each is used for

- b. What date was this contract awarded?
- c. When is this contract due to end?
- d. Was this contract awarded as a result of a tender process or via a direct award?

A1 Not applicable

Q2 Do you use a third-party Vendor Management System for your agency supply?

If you have answered yes, please also provide answers to the following questions, otherwise please stipulate 'N/A'

- a. Who is the provider of your VMS? If different systems are used for different staffing groups, please state all, and indicate which staffing group they are used for
- b. What date was this contract awarded?
- c. When is this contract due to end?
- d. Was this contract awarded as a result of a tender process or via a direct award?

A2 UHNM does not use a third party VMS

Q3 Do you use a third-party to provide Direct Engagement services to any staff group?

If you have answered yes, please also provide answers to the following questions, otherwise please stipulate 'N/A'

- a. Who is your Direct Engagement provider? If different providers are used for different staffing groups, please state all, and indicate which staffing group they are used for
- b. What date was this contract awarded?
- c. When is this contract due to end?
- d. Was this contract awarded as a result of a tender process or via a direct award?

A3 See below:

- a. PWC (Price Waterhouse Cooper)
- b. 1ST April 2017
- c. 30th September 2021

Competitive process on the TWS Health Trust Europe framework

Q4 Do you use a recruitment process outsourcing model (RPO) for substantive staff at your Trust?

If you have answered yes, please also provide answers to the following questions, otherwise please stipulate 'N/A'

- a. Who is the provider that you have outsourced to? If different providers are used for different staffing groups, please state all, and indicate which staffing group they are used for
- c. What date was this contract awarded?
- d. When is this contract due to end?
- e. Was this contract awarded as a result of a tender process or via a direct award?

A4 The Trust does not use a recruitment process outsourcing model (RPO) for substantive staff

*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.

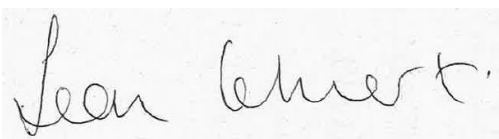
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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



University Hospitals
of North Midlands
NHS Trust

Data, Security & Protection Manager

