

Ref: FOIA Reference 2020/21-320

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

Date: 10th December 2020

Email foi@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 30th October 2020 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding serious incidents.

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, please can you provide me with responses to the following?

A list of all Serious Incidents Requiring Investigation (these include all incidents recorded as SIRIs or SIs and also including anything still referred to as a "never event" or "serious untoward incidents") that occurred in hospitals concerning a patient with coronavirus or suspected to have coronavirus, since its outbreak (or please take March 1st as a start date). Please provide a log of this information, broken down by department and hospital, the month of the incident, a brief description of what happened (e.g. coronavirus patient left in side room and not checked on and died) including the outcome or consequence for the patient, and any investigation outcome known.

In Scotland these are known as Significant Adverse Event Reviews (SAERs), please provide a response accordingly. For clarification on SIRIs in England, the terms 'serious incident requiring investigation (SIRI)', 'serious incident (SI)' or 'serious untoward incident (SUI)' are often used interchangeably. This NHS England document may be helpful: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/serious-incident-framwrk-upd.pdf>

I have attached an example of a previous SIRI/SI response as a guide for a response. Please send me the data requested in the form of an Excel spread sheet or as a csv file, using the template provided.

A1 We are unable to provide the information you require in the requested format as to release this data could lead to the identification of the person(s) involved due to the low numbers involved, and would breach the Trusts obligations under Data Protection Act 2018. Accordingly, this aspect of your request is exempt from disclosure under the terms of Section 40(2) of the FOI Act. *Personal information*. However as the Trust is committed to openness and transparency we can band the numbers as being <5 on one particular day in June. *This exemption is an absolute exemption and therefore no consideration of the public interest test is needed.*

*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,



University Hospitals
of North Midlands
NHS Trust

Jean Lehnert
Data, Security & Protection Manager

