



Ref: FOIA Reference 2024/25-510

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

Date: 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024

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

Dear Sir/ Madam

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 29th October 2024 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) Foreign nationals

**Q1 I wish to make an FOI request. Please provide the following information for the calendar years 2020, 21,22,23 and 24:**

**The number of foreign national attendances at A&E services provided by your Trust.**

A1 Between 01/01/2020 and 29/10/2024 there were 3226 A&E attendances by patients who are chargeable for secondary NHS care.

**Q2 The number of places on waiting lists for elective procedures at your Trust currently occupied by foreign nationals.**

A2 19 places on our elective IP waiting list are occupied by patients who are chargeable for secondary NHS care.

**Q3 The number of treatment courses currently being provided by your Trust to foreign nationals.**

**If you are unable to provide information on any of the above three requests, then please proceed with the remainder.**

A3 If we were to look into this data, we would have to review 5303 patient records who are currently chargeable for secondary NHS care individually to access if they are under current care at UHNM. Therefore, section 12 exemption applies. Please see below for details:

I can neither confirm nor deny whether the information you have requested is held by the Trust in its entirety. This is because the information requested in this question is not held centrally but may be recorded in health records (5303 patient records). To confirm whether this information is held we would therefore have to individually access all health records within the Trust and extract the information where it is present. We therefore estimate that complying with your request is exempt under section 12 of the FOI Act: *cost of compliance is excessive*. The section 12 exemption applies when it is estimated a request will take in excess of 18 hours to complete. We estimate that accessing and reviewing all health records and then extracting

relevant information would take longer than the 18 hours allowed for. In addition to the section 12 exemption the Trust is also applying section 14 (1) exemption: *oppressive burden on the authority*

\*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](http://www.ico.org.uk).

Yours,





University Hospitals  
of North Midlands  
NHS Trust

**Leah Carlisle**  
Head of Data, Security & Protection and Health Records  
Data Protection Officer

