



Ref: FOIA Reference 2024/25-306

Date: 17th September 2024

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear Sir/ Madam

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 8th August 2024 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding NEPTS

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 I would be most grateful if you would provide me, under the Freedom of Information Act, details in respect to the below relating to the provision of Non-Emergency Patient Transport Service (NEPTS) and Pathology Specimen Courier services to your Trust

The details I require are:

For Non-Emergency Patient Transport Service (NEPTS):

- 1) Do you currently use external suppliers for Non-Emergency Patient Transport Services (NEPTS)?**
 - a) If not, are you planning on using them in the future?**

- 2) For the financial years (April – March) 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24:**
 - a) Annual spend on NEPTS by your Trust, split by:**
 - i) Internally provided**
 - ii) Externally provided**

 - b) The number of journeys provided by your Trust, split by:**
 - i) Internally provided**
 - ii) Externally provided**

- 3) The following information regarding the current provision of NEPTS at your Trust:**
 - a) Name of the current NEPTS provider(s)**
 - b) Total contract value**

- c) Start date
- d) End date

- 4) If a different NEPTS provider was previously used, please provide:
 - a) Name of the previous NEPTS provider(s)
 - b) Reason for change

For Pathology Specimen Courier services:

- 5) Do you currently use external suppliers for Pathology Specimen Courier services?
 - a) If not, are you planning on using them in the future?

- 6) For the financial years (April – March) 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24:
 - a) Annual spend on Pathology Specimen Courier services by your Trust, split by:
 - i) Internally provided
 - ii) Externally provided

 - b) The number of journeys provided by your Trust, split by:
 - i) Internally provided
 - ii) Externally provided

- 7) The following information regarding the current provision of Pathology Specimen Courier services at your Trust:
 - a) Name of the current Pathology Specimen Courier provider(s)
 - b) Total contract value
 - c) Start date
 - d) End date

- 8) If a different Pathology Specimen Courier provider was previously used, please provide:
 - a) Name of the previous Pathology Specimen Courier provider(s)
 - b) Reason for change

Please make use of the Excel template attached for you to simplify the fill in process and standardise the information

A1 The NEPTS services are commissioned by the ICB and therefore they would need to provide the information requested. Q1-4

Q5-8 Pathology: information for both RSUH/County 2018/19 – 31st March 2020;
Pathology: 1st April 2020/21 – Present; Includes RSUH, County, Mid and East Cheshire (North Midlands and Cheshire pathology Service) See attached

*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

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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,



Rachel Montinaro

Data Security and Protection Manager - Records