



Ref: FOIA Reference 2020/21-240

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

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> October 2020

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

Dear

I am writing in response to your emails dated 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> September 2020 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding locum agency spend.

On 28<sup>th</sup> September 2020 we contacted you via email as both of your requests were identical, therefore we are contacted you to inform you that under section 12 of the FOI Act we were aggregating these requests on locum agency spend

The section 12 exemption states:

The authority can combine related requests received within a period of 60 consecutive days from:

- The same person or
- People who appear to be acting in concert or in pursuance of a campaign.

I can neither confirm nor deny whether some of the information you have requested is held by the Trust in its entirety. This is because the information requested in your questions is not held centrally, but may be recorded in several record systems. In order to confirm whether this information is held we would therefore have to extrapolate the information from several record systems 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 record systems 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*

Under section 16 of the FOI Act we are required to provide requestors with advice and assistance where possible. We would therefore like to advise you that if your request is shortened to just the questions that we are able to comply within the 18 hour time frame. In order to avoid delay to your response we have provided this attached.

As of 1<sup>st</sup> 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 like you to send me the locum agency spend for the trust for Nurses in acute settings as well as the community, including but not limited to general, ITU, Mental Health. I would like to know the spend for from January 2020 to date, also including the amount of locums that this refers to per month, broken down on a monthly basis. In the**

**breakdown if you could please include the agencies that provide the locums also broken down numerically.**

**Ideally this would read as below -  
January 2018 - £20k Community - £16k Acute**

**MSI – Mental Health Nurses x 3  
Your World – Mental Health Nurses x 2  
Maxxima - Mental Health Nurses x 2  
Pulse - Mental Health Nurses x 2**

A1 Please note we have only been able to provide the information split by supplier for invoices that have been paid, note that this doesn't take account of invoices in our system that haven't been paid, due to the excessive time commitment involved. We are also unable to provide information regarding the number of locum agency staff - section 12 and 14 exemptions as detailed above

See attached spread sheet that has been provided in a slightly different format than the table presented all of which relates to acute spend.

\*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.***

Where the Trust owns the copyright in information provided, you may re-use the information in line with the conditions set out in the Open Government Licence v3 which is available at <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>. Where information was created by third parties, you should contact them directly for permission to re-use the information.

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.

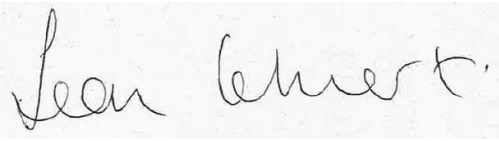
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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

If following review of the responses I can be of any further assistance please contact my secretary on 01782 671612.

Yours,



Jean Lehnert  
**Data, Security & Protection Manager**