



Ref: FOIA Reference 2019/20-621

Royal Stoke University Hospital
Quality, Safety and Compliance Department
Newcastle Road
Stoke-on-Trent
Staffordshire
ST4 6QG

Date: 13th February 2020

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 28th January 2020 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding unlicensed medicines.

Commercially sensitive information relating to the price paid per item (Q3) has not been disclosed here as we consider that under section 43(2) of the FOI Act: *prejudice to the commercial interests of any party*, is engaged. Disclosure of this information could be commercially detrimental to the Trust and companies acting on our behalf and result in less competitive prices for services. The likely consequence of this would be increased cost for service provision to the Trust. We have considered how the public interest might apply, and although recognising that there is a strong public interest in openness there is a greater public interest ensuring an ability to obtain best value for money.

As of 1st November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHM) 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 As per the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please could you supply us with the following information for the period of December 2018 to December 2019 with the purchases of Unlicensed Medicines and UK bespoke special formulations by the Trust.

Could we please have the following information?

1. Name and pack size of medicine (generic and propitiatory name if applicable)

A1 Please see attached spread sheet for products ordered in 12 month period. (i.e.) December 2018 to November 2019

Q2 The number of packs procured broken down by month as above

A2 As answer 1

Q3 The total cost of the 12 month period for each medicine to the Trust.

A3 Section 43(2) exemption as detailed above

Q4 For the purchasing of Unlicensed Medicines and UK Unlicensed Specials, please could you advise if you plan to publish any contract, tender or Framework during 2020 and 2021?

If this is the case, please could you also advise where we should register to take part in this process?

A4 There are no plans to participate in any contract, framework or tender at present at Trust level

*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 676474.

Yours,



University Hospitals
of North Midlands
NHS Trust

Jean Lehnert
Information Governance Manager

