



Ref: FOIA Reference 2023/24-059

Date: 18th July 2023

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 26th April 2023 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding strikes and Trusts' use of the BMA rate card.

On 27th April 2023 we contacted you via email as

UHNM has received several requests that are asking for similar information that we believe are from the same person/company, therefore we are contacting you to inform you that under section 12 of the FOI Act we were aggregating these requests on *Additional Duty Hours Payment, Tech Contract Expiry Update and strikes and Trusts' use of the BMA rate card*

Your new reference number for all 3 is 059-2324

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.

On 31st May 2023 you contacted us via email with:

'This is to inform you that I have not yet received response for the subject FOI and would like to confirm the possible date of receipt.'

We replied with:

This request was aggregated with two other requests from yourself, therefore collating such a large amount of information is taking us longer than expected, we will respond as soon as we are able, unless you would prefer us to place the section 12 exemption (*cost of compliance excessive* on the requests) and for you to receive what we have so far, forsaking the remainder?

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.

Request #1

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act.



I would like to apologize for the previous email as the excel sheet wasn't up to date and I have made the necessary changes in the excel sheet attached with this email.

1. How much did your organisation spend in total on additional duty hours payments to consultants in
 1. Financial year 2018-19 and
 2. Financial year 2021-22
 3. From April 1, 2022 to end of January 2023 (ADHs cover work on waiting list initiatives, covering for absent colleagues, additional shifts etc)

2. How much was your total pay bill for consultants in
 1. Financial year 2018-19
 2. Financial year 2021-22
 3. From April 1, 2022 to end of January 2023

3. What was the maximum paid to any single consultant for ADHs in
 1. Financial year 2018-19
 2. Financial year 2021-22
 3. From April 1, 2022 to end of January 2023 (please just give the amount paid for ADHs, not their normal salary or any clinical excellence award)?
 4. How many hours' work did this cover?

4. What was the maximum amount paid to any single consultant (including normal pay, any clinical excellence award and any additional payments such as ADHs) in
 1. Financial year 2018-19
 2. Financial year 2021-22
 3. From April 1, 2022 to end of January 2023

5. Please indicate if any of the answers to questions 2 and 3 involve the same person.

Please note we are not asking for any personal identifying information about the consultants involved.

It would be helpful if you could respond in the attached excel spread sheet.

Sorry for the inconvenience caused.

A1 Refer to the spread sheet that you supplied

Request #2

Q1 We are researching and compiling information about NHS trusts' use of technology as part of our on-going coverage of the NHS tech landscape. According to our records, your Trust's contract with the below mentioned suppliers is expiring within this year or has already expired.

Technologies	Name of the supplier	Name of the software/system	Contract Expiry Date
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Hospital pharmacy system	EMIS Group plc	Ascribe -is for Pharmacy Stock Management and we are implementing CMM for EPMA	Mar-23
Hospital discharge system	Medisec	Medisec E-Discharge	Mar-23
Remote consultation system provider (e.g. video and online consultations)	Attend Anywhere	Attend Anywhere	Mar-23

Please could you confirm whether you have agreed a contract with a new supplier (if so what is the contract length and name of the supplier and system in question), or if you have extended your contract with your existing supplier? If neither, please provide details of what's happening at the minute (e.g. the trust is procuring a new system, the trust is developing an in-house solution etc).

Could you please respond to this by 4th April 2023?

A1 You mentioned that you expect a response by 4th April 2023 the FOI Act sets out a twenty working day timescale for requests (5th May 2023) to be completed by. Note that we will not be able to respond by the 4th April, therefore confirm that you still want this information or we will close this request as unreasonable

See below:

Technologies	Name of the supplier	Name of the software/system	Contract Expiry Date
Hospital pharmacy system	EMIS Group plc	Ascribe -is for Pharmacy Stock Management and we are implementing CMM for EPMA	Mar-23
Hospital discharge system	Medisec	Medisec E-Discharge	Mar-23
Remote consultation system provider (e.g. video and online consultations)	Attend Anywhere	Attend Anywhere	Mar-23

- Ascribe has been extended with EMIS for 1 year 1st April 2023- 30th March 2024
- Attend anywhere has been decommissioned
- Medisec e-discharge has been extended to March 2024.

Request #3

Q1 The questions relate to how much the Trust paid consultants during recent industrial action by junior doctors and whether the paid rates in line with the BMA's 'rate card'.

Please answer the following questions in the Excel sheet provided:

1. How much did the Trust spend (£) in total on paying for consultants to carry out non-contractual shifts, or paying for consultants to act down during contractual shifts, required to cover junior doctors' during the seven days of industrial action by junior doctors taken between 13 to 16 March, and 11 to 14 April 2023? Please provide a £ figure for the total. Please use the free text box if the Trust wants to further explanation its answer.

2. Did the Trust pay the hourly rates outlined on the BMA rate card for consultants' non-contractual work, during either of the junior doctors' strikes in March or April? Please answer Yes or No. Please use the free text box if the Trust wants to further explanation its answer.
3. If the Trust answered "No" to question 2, what was the maximum hourly rate (£/hour) the Trust paid for non-contractual shifts, or for consultants to act down during contractual shifts required to cover junior doctors' shifts during either the March or April junior doctors' strike? If you answered "yes" to question 2, please leave this answer blank. Please use the free text box if the Trust wants to further explanation its answer.
4. Did the Trust pay the hourly rates outlined on the BMA rate card for consultants' non-contractual shifts as of April 2023? Please answer Yes or No. Please use the free text box if the Trust wants to further explanation its answer.
5. If the Trust answered "No" to question 4, what is the maximum hourly rate (£/hour) the Trust paid consultants for non-contractual shifts as of April 2023? If the Trust answered "yes" to question 4, please leave this answer blank. Please use the free text box if the Trust wants to further explanation its answer.

A1 Refer to the attached spread sheet that you supplied

*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,



Rachel Montinaro
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records