



Ref: FOIA Reference 2021/22-085

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

Date: 24th May 2021

Email foi@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear,

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 07.05.21 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Medical Locums / Agency Doctors.

The University Hospitals of North Midlands Trust is committed to the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

However, the NHS is facing unprecedented challenges relating to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic at the current time. Understandably, our resources have been diverted to support our front-line colleagues who are working tremendously hard to provide care for our patients, and to those in need of our services.

We strive to be transparent and to work with an open culture. But at this time, whilst care of our patients and the safety of our staff takes precedent, it is likely that responses to some requests for information will be delayed. We apologise for this position in advance, and will endeavour to provide you with as much information as we can, as soon as we are able.

The Information Commissioners Office has recognised the current situation in the NHS

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 am writing under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) to request the following information:

1. What contractual relationships are in place for supplying agency doctors and who is responsible for managing them?

A1 There is a Tier 1 contract in place for doctors via Health Trust Europe Total Workforce Solutions II framework.
Joanne Roberts = Deputy Director of Procurement is the Procurement Lead for this contract

Q2 Who is your primary point of contact for decision making regarding supply chain for Agency Doctors?

- A2 No one person is responsible for making decisions about the supply chain for agency doctors. The supply chain is decided following a competitive exercise and then the Trust approve the award of the contract
- Q3 How many agencies are used to supply agency doctors?**
- A3 All of the suppliers are available to the Trust on the Health Trust Europe Total Workforce Solutions II framework. There are 85 suppliers on the framework
- Q4 Of these agencies, how many are off framework – please list them?**
- A4 None
- Q5 Over the past 6 months, how many shifts have been filled via an off framework agency?**
- A5 As answer 4
- Q6 Who is your highest paid agency doctor, what is their speciality and their hourly charge?**
- A6 Consultant Oncologist at £167.28 total hourly charge
- Q7 Please outline your spend per agency, broken down by grade and speciality of doctor over the past 6 months?**
- A7 Refer to the attached spread sheet
- Q8 Do you have a Master Vendor for Agency Doctors In place? If so, who are they and when are they contracted until?**
- A8 No there is no Master Vendor in place
- Q9 If you have a Master Vendor in place, what is your current average % fill rate from your Master Vendor Provider for Medical Locums for the past 6 months?**
- A9 As answer 8
- Q10 If you have a Master Vendor in place, how many hours of work for medical locums have been booked outside of your Master Vendor arrangement in the past 6 months?**
- A10 As answer 8
- Q11 If you have a Master Vendor in place, what % of bookings by your Master Vendor Provider are at the NHSI capped rates in the past 6 months?**
- A11 As answer 8
- Q12 What is your total (£) off framework agency spend for Agency Doctors?**
- A12 As answer 8

Q13 Does the Trust utilise a Direct Engagement method of payment for agency doctors and if so whom?

A13 Yes, PWC Clarity

Q14 What % of Agency Doctors are paid via Direct Engagement Method? And Outside of Direct Engagement?

A14 99% are via DE and 1% is outside of DE

Q15 How many doctors working are Deemed Outside of IR35 working at the Trust?

A15 None

*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.

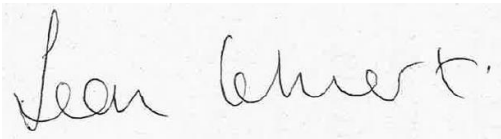
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature reads "Jean Lehnert" in a cursive script.

Jean Lehnert
Data, Security & Protection Manager