



Ref: FOIA Reference 2021/22-036

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> May 2021

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

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 19th April 2021 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding agency contacts

***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***

Under section 8(1) of the FOI Act, requestors are required to provide a full name in order to make a request valid. The Information Commissioner states that a "title and/or first name with surname satisfies the requirement for provision of a real name, as does the use by a female applicant of her maiden name". Therefore, in order to proceed with your request can you please supply us with a valid name?

On 21<sup>st</sup> May 2021 you contacted us via email with your name and an additional question

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 Can you please provide me with the name, contact number & email address of the person responsible for agreeing temporary nursing agency contracts for your Trust?**

A1 Please see below:  
Joanne Roberts; Deputy Director of Procurement\*  
[Joanne.roberts@uhn.nhs.uk](mailto:Joanne.roberts@uhn.nhs.uk)  
01782 672682

**Q2 Please list your current employment agencies that you are using, how often you are currently using temporary agencies for nursing staff.**

A2 Medacs is the Master Vend bookings are all made via this agency weekly for nursing

**Q3 Along with the above information can you please provide details on how often this is reviewed and the Trusts current/future plans for recruitment agencies?**

A3 This contract has just been extended with Medacs until 31/03/22

**Q4 Finally if you can also provide details of the names of the decision makers who ultimately decide which agencies the Trust use?**

A4 This is decided via a tender process. There is no one person who decides which agency is used within the Trust

**Q5 In addition please can you provide me with a list of non-framework agencies used between November 2020- present?**

A5 No off framework agency during this period

\*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.

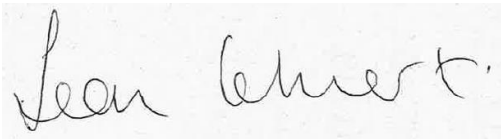
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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