



Ref: FOIA Reference 2019/20-113

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

Date: 10th June 2019

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 29th May 2019 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding pension recycling arrangements.

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 We are writing to make an open government request for all the information to which we are entitled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

As a result of HMRC's changes to the pensions Lifetime Allowance ('the LTA') and Annual Allowance ('the AA') many of our members have left the NHS Pensions Scheme. These results in NHS Trusts saving the employer pension contributions which they would have paid into our members' pensions had they not left the scheme. We have been made aware of some Trusts have enable such scheme leavers to receive payment of the monies which their Trust would have paid into their pension in the form of employer pension contributions as an ad hoc arrangement outside of any Trust policy. The following requests for information relate to your Trust's use of monies saved from unpaid employer pension contributions in the way described above.

1. In the past five years, has your Trust offered an employee the option of retaining the employer's pension contribution as an unrestricted additional payment after they have left the NHS Pension scheme(s)?

A1 UHM has not offered an employee the option of retaining the employer's pension contribution as an unrestricted additional payment after they have left the NHS Pension scheme(s)

Q2 If "yes" to the above, were those offers made on the basis of a Trust agreed policy or on the basis of a personal arrangement?

A2 Not applicable

Q3 How many employees of the Trust, having left the NHS Pension scheme(s) have been paid the employers pension contributions as an unrestricted additional payment?

A3 Not applicable.

Q4 What staff groups were/are those employees from?

A4 Not applicable.

*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

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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

