



Ref: FOIA Reference 2020/21-738

Date: 26th May 2020

Email foi@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 31st March 2021 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding nursing agency.

Upon our acknowledgment UHNM issued the following statement:

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 Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please can you provide me with responses to the following?

- 1) The highest price charged by a nursing agency for a hospital nurse since March 1st and the onset of the coronavirus pandemic up until the time this request is responded to.**

Please provide: the name of the provider, the known fee received by the agency themselves (if known as separate from the nurses' pay), the staff rank, the highest hourly or daily pay paid to nurses and the department the nurse(s) were paid to work in (e.g. ICU/ A&E).

A1 Highest paid shift is £48 per hour, for specialised Chemotherapy nurses. This is via multiple providers via the master vend, therefore the Nurse pay rate will also differ.

Q2 If known, please also provided the highest price quoted by a company but not actually paid. Please only provide this information if it is readily available.

A2 Highest quote received was for £55 per hour

Q3 The highest price charged for a locum consultant doctor in ICU or A&E since March 1st and the onset of the coronavirus pandemic up until the time this request is responded to.

Please provide the highest hourly or daily pay paid to the doctor, their rank e.g. consultant, the department the nurses were paid to work in (e.g. ICU/ A&E).

There are concerns that nursing agencies are trying to profit from a time of exceptional demand for nurses.

A3 Please see below:

- Highest hourly or daily pay paid to the doctor: £88 per hour
- Position: Consultant Doctor
- Department: A&E Royal Stoke

*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.

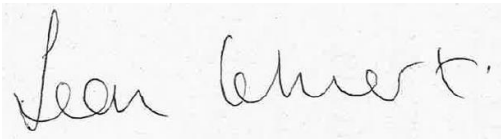
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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



Jean Lehnert
Data, Security & Protection Manager