



Ref: FOIA Reference 2019/20-737

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

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> April 2020

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

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding correspondence.

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 Please provide me with copies of all correspondence signed by any member of your Executive board (or sent from their e-mail account) to either the DHSC, PHE or NHS England where there is a mention of either:**
- (i) Ventilators**
  - (ii) PPE equipment in relation to how your Trust will cope with the influx of Coronavirus patients and/or how a lack of (i) ventilators and (ii) PPE equipment is endangering the lives of your patients or staff.**

A1 I can neither confirm nor deny that the Trust holds information regarding correspondence but feel this information is exempt under sections 41 (1)(a)(b) *provided in confidence*, and release would *inhibit the free and frank provision of advice or exchange of views* and 36(b) of the FOI Act *prejudice the effective conduct of public affairs*; The Trust has determined whether disclosure would have a detrimental effect, as defined by the section 36 and 41 exemptions and has refused this request on the grounds explained above.

\*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.

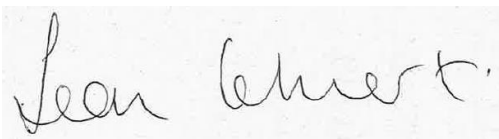
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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