



Ref: FOIA Reference 2019/20-708

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

Date: 27<sup>th</sup> March 2020

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

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding cannabis-based products.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 we contacted you via email with 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 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 Since 1 November 2018, how many applications regarding unlicensed Cannabis-Based Products for Medicinal Use (CBPMs) have been received by your Drug and Therapeutic Committee, or a similar clinical governance body? Please exclude Sativex and Epidiolex.**

- a. Please provide the therapeutic indication for the applications received e.g. chronic pain
- b. Please detail from which department the request originated?

A1 This request is not applicable to UHNM as no applications have been made

**Q2 Of the total number of applications to your Drug and Therapeutic Committee, or a similar clinical governance body, how many applications for unlicensed CBPMs has the Trust declined since 1 November 2018? Please provide any details as to the reason/s behind declining the applications**

A2 As answer 1

**Q3 Of the total number of applications to your Drug and Therapeutic Committee, or a similar clinical governance body, how many applications for unlicensed CBPMs has the Trust accepted since 1 November 2018? Please provide any details of the application accepted where possible, including the cost of reimbursement and the product/s prescribed.**

**a. Please provide the therapeutic indication for the applications received e.g. chronic pain**

**b. Please detail from which department the request originated?**

A3 As answer 1

**Q4 For applications to your Drug and Therapeutic Committee, or a similar clinical governance body, that have been accepted, please advise what the subsequent stage was (if there was one)? E.g. an Individual Funding Request being submitted or new entries being added to the Trust Formulary**

A4 As answer 1

**Q5 Please clarify whether funding for unlicensed Cannabis-Based Products for Medicinal Use is at CCG or Trust level?**

A5 As answer 1

**Q6 Please clarify whether your Trust operates a policy with a capped number of prescriptions or duration of prescriptions for unlicensed Cannabis-Based Products for Medicinal Use?**

A6 Not applicable as we do not use at UHNM

\*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.

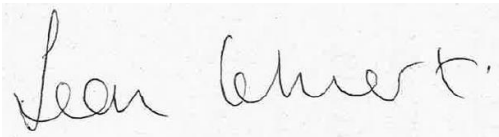
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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