



**University Hospitals
of North Midlands**
NHS Trust

Royal Stoke University Hospital

Data, Security and Protection

Newcastle Road
Stoke-on-Trent
Staffordshire
ST4 6QG

Ref: FOIA Reference 2020/21-425

Date: 12th January 2021

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 3rd January 2021 (received into our office 4th January 2021) requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding assaults.

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 I write to you on behalf of the Violence Research Group of Cardiff University. We are conducting an annual national study of attendances to Emergency Departments for assault-related injury and would be grateful if your department could provide us with attendance data for 2020. This data will be used, as in previous years, to analyse trends in violence in England and Wales from injury perspective. You can read more about the group and how your data has been used by following this link:

<http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/violence-research-group>

The data we require are as follows (for period 1st January 2020 and 31st December 2020) in an electronic format that allows us to read the data into a database. Many hospitals respond to our survey and provide data in the form we require. Preferably this format is in an excel file or comma separated text file.

We require the gender of the patient (M or F), the date that they attended due to assault (dd/mm/yyyy) and their age. Age can either be numerical to the nearest year (preferred) or in age bands ("0-10", "11-17", "18-30", "31-50", "51+"), we can also accept date of birth.

To calculate the level of assault-related injury in England and Wales we also require the total number of attendances for any reason in the year of interest, i.e. 2020.

Please also include the names of hospitals providing assault data.

The Data Protection Act places restrictions on what data can be shared. It is the view of nearly 170 hospitals in England and Wales that the data we are requesting (age, date of attendance and gender) do not constitute personal information and that it is not realistic to expect that information to be used to discover an individual's identity. If you would



like to contact someone to talk about these issues you can do so by responding to this email.

- A1 Please refer to the attached spread sheet
- Q2 To calculate the level of assault-related injury in England and Wales we also require the total number of attendances for any reason in the year of interest, i.e. 2020.**
- A2 Total Emergency Department attendance for 2020 = 188782

*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.

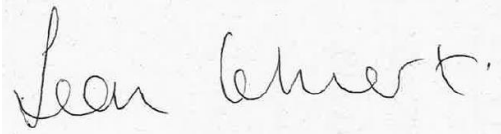
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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

If following review of the responses I can be of any further assistance please contact my secretary on 01782 671612.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light grey background. The signature reads "Jean Lehnert" in a cursive script.

Jean Lehnert
Data, Security & Protection Manager