

Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-005

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

Date: 16th May 2018

Tel: 01782 676474
Email foi@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 4th April 2018 (received into our office 5th April) requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding financial reviews. I sincerely apologise for the delay in responding.

I can neither confirm nor deny whether the information you have requested is held by the Trust in its entirety. This is because some of the information requested in question 1 is not held centrally, but may be recorded in departmental records. In order to confirm whether this information is held we would therefore have to individually access all departmental records within the Trust and extract the information where it is present. We therefore estimate that complying with your request is exempt under section 12 of the FOI Act: *cost of compliance is excessive*. The section 12 exemption applies when it is estimated a request will take in excess of 18 hours to complete. We estimate that accessing and reviewing all departmental records and then extracting relevant information would take longer than the 18 hours allowed for.

Under section 16 of the FOI Act we are required to provide requestors with advice and assistance where possible. We would therefore like to advise you that if your request is shortened to just questions we are able to comply within the 18 hour time frame. In order to avoid delay to your response we have provided this attached.

On 17th April 2018 we contacted you via email as we required clarification on Q1, we asked:

NFI information is available through the Cabinet Office and its matches based on the data provided by a number of public sector organisations. In order to respond we would need to know if the information to be provided is the total value of NFI matches or the total value of fraud or errors identified as a result of NFI matches.

On 20th April 2018 you replied via email the following:

*“The first part of the questions is referring to the total amounts identified as potentially fraudulent and, therefore, potentially recoverable as identified as part of the NFI review.
The second part is that asking, of those potential claims, what is the value of the errors that had been followed up*

And lastly, the total amount recovered from those errors that had been followed up, split by a recovery by the trust or an external body. Split all the above questions by the amounts identified into the provided categories of pensions, payroll and creditors.”

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.

Please refer to the document that you supplied.

*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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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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mojgan Casillas', written over a large, light blue oval shape.

Mojgan Casillas
Interim Information Governance Manager