



**University Hospitals
of North Midlands**
NHS Trust

Ref: FOIA Reference 2019/20-146

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

Date: 17th June 2019

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 13th June 2019 (received into our office 14th June) requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Sustainability Transformation Partnership.

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 Following up on the survey that was conducted by NHS Improvement in July 2017 to find out where Trusts were using local staff banks, I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act to understand where your trust is now in terms of the progress it has made in relation to having already established or is working towards establishing a collaborative bank across your Integrated Care System (‘ICS’) or Sustainability Transformation Partnership (‘STP’) footprint.

As stated in NHS Improvement’s making effective use of staff banks toolkit, published in December 2017, there is no ‘one size fits all’ model for collaborative banks. They can either cover a specific staff group or all staff groups. They can stretch across two trusts or as wide as an STP or region. They can be a shared digital platform or a shared back office, e.g. payroll or a hub and spoke model or a shared pool of workers or a fully integrated staff bank.

However, rather than list several questions of you, I would instead appreciate it if you would please simply confirm by means of a statement similar to those given below where your Trust is now. For example:

- “our Trust is working collaboratively, but is looking to do so over the next few years with other Trusts across the ICS or STP footprint”; or**
- “our Trust is working collaboratively with at least one other Trust within the STP footprint but not the footprint as a whole, sharing a digital platform and pool of workers in the following staffing categories: registered nursing & midwifery and medical & dental. We are working towards establishing a fully integrated bank over the next five years”; or**



- “our Trust is part of a fully integrated staff bank across our ICS or STP footprint for all staffing categories”.

If I am required to separately identify the questions, then please advise.

A1 Our Trust is part of a collaborative bank enabling project across the Staffordshire STP footprint

*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

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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 676474.

Yours,



University Hospitals
of North Midlands
NHS Trust

Jean Lehnert
Information Governance Manager

