Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-155

Date: 2nd July 2018

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 14th June 2018 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding mortuary numbers.

On 15th June 2018 we contacted you via email as we required clarification on question 5 and whether this was a follow on from question 4.

On the same day you replied via email with the following:

"Yes it is a follow on question"

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   How many deceased bodies do you have at today's date 14.06.2018 in your mortuary?

A1   On the date requested (14th June 2018) the Trust had 105 deceased in our mortuaries.

Q2   In any of your hospitals of that number (above) how many are unidentified?

A2   None

Q3   How many are identified but no one has stepped forward to arrange a funeral service?

A3   We are unable to provide the information you require in the requested format as to release this data could lead to the identification of the person(s) involved due to the low numbers involved which could cause distress to relatives and would breach the Trusts obligations under The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) Accordingly, this aspect of your request is exempt from disclosure under the terms of Section 40(2) of the FOI Act. *Personal information.* However as the Trust is committed to openness and transparency we can band the numbers as being less than 5.

Q4   How many are identified or unidentified but are being stored for some other reason?

A4   None

Q5   Please provide details of how long they have been in the mortuary and the gender, whether male or female?

A5   Not applicable

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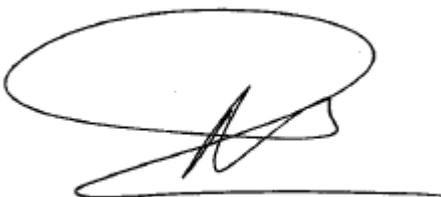
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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

Mojgan Casillas

Interim Information Governance Manager