



**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 2022/23-034b

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022

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

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 12<sup>th</sup> May 2022 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding our response on Chaplaincy Provision.

**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.**

You emailed the following:

*'Thank you for responding to the FOI request 034-2223, can i please seek clarity on two questions:*

*Question 8: Can the total whole time equivalent of Band 5 Chaplaincy roles be given please?*

*Question 13: Should this read 2 spaces, 1 in each hospital for multifaith space and designated Muslim prayer space?'*

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 I would like to request the following information, under a freedom of information request, relating to hospital Chaplains and Chaplaincy provision in your Trust.**

**Could you please provide the following information?**

**1. Are you:**



- a. an acute Trust
- b. a specialist centre / Trust
- c. a community Trust
- d. a mental health Trust
- e. other, please specify:

A1 Acute

**Q2 In total how many beds do you have in your hospital(s)?**

A2 Total number of beds across both sites is 1574.

This includes General and Acute, Critical Care, Daycase, Paediatric, Maternity, Neonatal and Escalation beds.

**Q3 How many staff by whole-time equivalent and headcount do you have in your hospital?**

A3 As at 31st March 2022:

- Headcount: 11332
- Whole time equivalent: 9961.76

This is for Fixed term and Permanent staffing only

**Q4 The number of whole-time equivalent and headcount of substantive Chaplaincy Team members by faith/belief demographic:**

Faith or Belief	Whole Time Equivalent (WTE)	Head Count
Anglican		
Baptist		
Buddhist		
Christian (other than listed)		
Eastern Orthodox		
Hindu		
Humanist		
Islam / Muslim		
Jewish		
Methodist		
Pentecostal/Charismatic		
Presbyterian		
Quaker		
Roman Catholic		
Salvation Army		
Sikh		
United Reformed Church		
Other (please specify):		
Unknown		

A4 5.8 WTE , however 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, and would breach the Trusts obligations under Data Protection Act 2018. 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 <5  
*This exemption is an absolute exemption and therefore no consideration of the public interest test is needed. See below:*

Faith or Belief	Whole Time Equivalent (WTE)	Head Count
Anglican	<5	<5
Baptist		
Buddhist		
Christian (other than listed)		
Eastern Orthodox		
Hindu		
Humanist		
Islam / Muslim	<5	<5
Jewish		
Methodist	<5	<5
Pentecostal/Charismatic	<5	<5
Presbyterian		
Quaker		
Roman Catholic	<5	<5
Salvation Army		
Sikh		
United Reformed Church		
Other (please specify): Do not wish to disclose	<5	<5
Unknown		

Q5 The number of bank / temporary / zero hours contract Chaplaincy staff by faith/belief demographic:

Faith or Belief	Head Count
Anglican	
Baptist	
Buddhist	
Christian (other than listed)	
Eastern Orthodox	
Hindu	
Humanist	
Islam / Muslim	
Jewish	
Methodist	
Pentecostal/Charismatic	
Presbyterian	

Quaker	
Roman Catholic	
Salvation Army	
Sikh	
United Reformed Church	
Other (please specify):	
Unknown	

A5 Information not held, however, we do have a service level agreement in place (not Trust employees) for Locum RC Emergency sacramental provision only and Locum Emergency on call provision, adhoc for all faiths and none.

**Q6 The number of honorary Chaplaincy Team members by faith/belief demographic:**

Faith or Belief	Head Count
Anglican	
Baptist	
Buddhist	
Christian (other than listed)	
Eastern Orthodox	
Hindu	
Humanist	
Islam / Muslim	
Jewish	
Methodist	
Pentecostal/Charismatic	
Presbyterian	
Quaker	
Roman Catholic	
Salvation Army	
Sikh	
United Reformed Church	
Other (please specify):	
Unknown	

A6 None

**Q7 Does the Trust have Trainee Chaplain / Entry Level Chaplain (Band 5) roles?**

A7 We have B5 Hospital Chaplain roles –these chaplains work in both hospitals in the Trust

**Q8 If so, how many of the Chaplaincy Team are at this level (whole-time equivalent, headcount and religion/belief)?**

A8 Amended answer: 2.2 FTE

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, and would breach the Trusts obligations under Data Protection Act 2018. 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 <5

*This exemption is an absolute exemption and therefore no consideration of the public interest test is needed. See below;*

B5 Roles	Headcount	WTE
Christian	<5	<5
Islam	<5	<5
Does not wish to disclose	<5	<5

**Q9 If so, are the positions permanent or fixed term?**

A9 Permanent

**Q10 What is the rationale for Trainee / Entry Level chaplains within your Trust?**

A10 Appointing entry level band 5 chaplains as well as more senior bands provides a range of experience and competency across the chaplaincy team, as well as accessibility, opportunity and creativity.

**Q11 Over the last 3 years has the Chaplaincy Team:**

- a. increased in size
- b. remained the same in size
- c. decreased in size

**If there is a change, please give the whole-time equivalent that has been reduced or increased.**

A11 b. remained the same in size

**Q12 What steps or initiatives has the Chaplaincy Team taken to increase the diversity of service provision within your Trust?**

A12 See below:

	Headcount	WTE
April 2019	8	5.8
April 2022	8	5.8

**Q13 What spaces do you have for prayer, meditation or worship within your Trust?**

Space	Yes / No	Number of these spaces within the Trust (if yes)	What activities regularly take place in this space
Chapel			
Multifaith space			
Single faith prayer space			
Designated Muslim			

prayer space			
Quiet room / reflection space			
Meeting room space			
Counselling room space			
Other (please specify):			

A13 Amended answer: we do have 2 discrete spaces for Muslims at both hospitals to pray.

1 has a mosque and 1 has a prayer room dedicated for muslims. At County this is in addition to a quiet/multifaith room.

Chaplaincy-SPaRC team advertises and promotes service provision for all irrespective of faith belief or none.

Chaplaincy-SPaRC team regularly reviews provision of services in relation to inpatient demographics and emergency requests and referrals from the community/faith-belief leaders and staff support.

Space	Yes / No	Number of these spaces within the Trust (if yes)	What activities regularly take place in this space
Chapel	yes	2- 1 in each hospital	
Multifaith space *	yes	1-2 in each hospital	
Single faith prayer space			
Designated Muslim prayer space	yes	1-2 in each hospital	
Quiet room / reflection space *	yes	2- 1 in each hospital	
Meeting room space	no		
Counselling room space *	*No, though the rooms above can be used in a multipurpose manner according to need.		
Other (please specify):			

\*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.

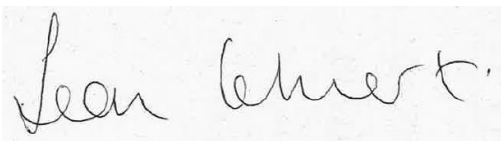
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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