

Ref: FOIA Reference 2021/22-410

Date: 13th December 2021

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 17th November 2021 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding ward 13

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 I am writing to you under the freedom of information act 2000 to request the following information about hospitals within your trust.

We are undertaking a review of hospitals within the UK to see if superstition plays any role in the numbering of bed spaces or wards; focusing on the number 13. We would like to know the following:

- **Do any of the hospitals within your Trust have numbered wards? If so, which?**
 - **Of these hospitals, do any have a ward numbered 13? If so, which?**
 - **Additionally, these hospitals with numbered wards, are there wards numbered 12 and 14? (i.e. suggesting the intentional omission of a ward 13) If so, which hospitals?**

A1 See below:

- Wards on both hospital sites are numbered
- There is no ward number 13
- County Hospital has ward 12 and ward 14

Q2 Do the wards in your hospitals have numbered bed spaces? If so, which? Of these hospitals, do any of the wards have a bed space 13? If so, which? Additionally, these hospital wards with numbered bed spaces, are there bed spaces numbered 12 and 14? (i.e. suggesting the intentional omission of a bed space 13) If so, which hospitals?

A2 See below:

- Wards on both hospital sites have numbered bed spaced
- All wards have a bed space 13, except for ward 109 at Royal Stoke where a decision was made to call bed space 13 bed space 12a instead

*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.

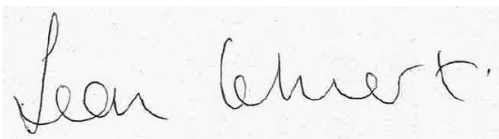
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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

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

Yours,



Jean Lehnert



University Hospitals
of North Midlands
NHS Trust

Data, Security & Protection Manager

