



Ref: FOIA Reference 2023/24-595

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024

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

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 5th December 2023 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Clinical Incident Data

On 7<sup>th</sup> December you contacted us via email with amendments and additional questions to your request;

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 am conducting a study on clinical safety and am interested in the number and nature of clinical incidents involving various grades of medical staff. Please provide the following information, preferably in an electronic format, for the period of the last five years. Please note, here “clinical incident” is defined as “An event that causes a loss, injury or a near miss to a patient, staff or others.”**

**1) The total number of medical doctors employed at your institution, broken down by professional grade (e.g., FY1, FY2, CT1, CT2, SpR, Associate Specialist, Consultant). If you cannot provide this break down, please provide the total for doctors of all grades.**

**Amended**

**The questions as amended are as follows and cover the period of 1st September 2018 to 1st September 2023:**

**1) The total number of medical doctors employed at your institution, broken down by professional grade (e.g., FY1, FY2, CT1, CT2, SpR, Associate Specialist, Consultant). If you cannot provide this break down, please provide the total for doctors of all grades.**

**A1 See below: Covers the period of 1st September 2018 to 1st September 2023**

Staff Group	Job Role	Employee Count by Year					
		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Medical and Dental	Associate Specialist (Closed to new entrants)	13	12	10	9	10	8
Medical and Dental	Clinical Assistant (Closed to new entrants)	3	3	3	2	2	2
Medical and Dental	Consultant	515	549	569	565	597	586
Medical and Dental	Dental Officer	11	11	12	10	8	4
Medical and Dental	Foundation Year 1	71	142	143	147	146	175
Medical and Dental	Foundation Year 2	73	148	159	161	161	155

Medical and Dental	General Medical Practitioner					1	1
Medical and Dental	Medical Director				1	1	1
Medical and Dental	Salaried General Practitioner	11	10	9	9	9	10
Medical and Dental	Senior Clinical Medical Officer (Closed to new entrants)		1	2	2	2	1
Medical and Dental	Specialty Doctor	101	118	119	128	151	173
Medical and Dental	Specialty Registrar	374	557	549	532	527	465
Medical and Dental	Trust Grade Doctor - Career Grade level	4	4	3	3	3	2
Medical and Dental	Trust Grade Doctor - Foundation Level			46			5
Medical and Dental	Trust Grade Doctor - SHO Level	1	1				
Medical and Dental	Trust Grade Doctor - Specialty Registrar	85	166	233	290	335	318

**Q2 The total number of clinical incidents reported involving medical doctors, categorized by each professional grade. If you can not provide this break down, please provide the total for doctors of all grades.**

**Amended**

**The total number of clinical incidents reported where after investigation it was found that a medical doctor was responsible for the incident. If possible, please categorized by each professional grade. If you cannot provide this break down, please provide the total for doctors of all grades.**

A2 We are not able to provide responses to the number of incidents apportioned to different staff . we do not record this information in Datix identifying who / role was responsible for the incident. All incidents would need to be manually reviewed.

I can neither confirm nor deny whether the information you have requested is held by the Trust in its entirety. This is because the information requested in this question is not held centrally, but may be recorded in incident records. In order to confirm whether this information is held we would therefore have to individually access all incident 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 incident records and then extracting relevant information would take longer than the 18 hours allowed for. In addition to the section 12 exemption the Trust is also applying section 14 (1) exemption: *oppressive burden on the authority*

**Q3 The number of Physician Associates (PAs) employed, and the number of clinical incidents reported involving PAs within the specified time frame.**

**Amended**

**The number of Physician Associates (PAs) employed at your institution.**

A3 See below:

Staff Group	Job Role	Headcount
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Add Prof Scientific and Technic	Physician Associate	9
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**Q4 The number of Advanced Clinical Practitioners (ACPs) and/or Advanced Nurse Practitioners (ANPs) employed, as well as the number of clinical incidents reported involving each of these roles.**

**Amended**

**The number of clinical incidents where after investigation it was found that a PA was responsible for the incident within the specified time frame.**

A4 We are not able to provide responses to the number of incidents apportioned to different staff . we do not record this information in Datix identifying who / role was responsible for the incident. All incidents would need to be manually reviewed.

I can neither confirm nor deny whether the information you have requested is held by the Trust in its entirety. This is because the information requested in this question is not held centrally, but may be recorded in incident records. In order to confirm whether this information is held we would therefore have to individually access all incident 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 incident records and then extracting relevant information would take longer than the 18 hours allowed for. In addition to the section 12 exemption the Trust is also applying section 14 (1) exemption: *oppressive burden on the authority*

**Q5 The breakdown of reported clinical incidents resulting in no harm, low harm, moderate harm, severe harm, and death for each clinician category mentioned above.**  
**Amended**

**The number of Advanced Clinical Practitioners (ACPs) and/or Advanced Nurse Practitioners (ANPs) employed at your institution.**

A5 See below:

Role	Headcount
Advanced Clinical Practitioners	92
Advanced Nurse Practitioners	98

**Additional questions**

**Q6 The number of clinical incidents where after investigation it was found that an ACP/ANP was responsible for the incident within the specified time frame.**

A6 We are not able to provide responses to the number of incidents apportioned to different staff . we do not record this information in Datix identifying who / role was responsible for the incident. All incidents would need to be manually reviewed.

I can neither confirm nor deny whether the information you have requested is held by the Trust in its entirety. This is because the information requested in this question is not held centrally, but may be recorded in incident records. In order to confirm whether this information is held we would therefore have to individually access all incident 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 incident records and then extracting relevant information would take longer than the 18 hours allowed for. In addition to the section 12 exemption the Trust is also applying section 14 (1) exemption: *oppressive burden on the authority*

**Q7 For questions 2, 4 and 6, the breakdown of reported clinical incidents resulting in no harm, low harm, moderate harm, severe harm, and death for each clinician category mentioned above.**

A7 I can neither confirm nor deny whether the information you have requested is held by the Trust in its entirety. This is because the information requested in this question is not held centrally, but may be recorded in incident records. In order to confirm whether this information is held we would therefore have to individually access all incident 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 incident records and then extracting relevant information would take longer than the 18 hours allowed for. In addition to the section 12 exemption the Trust is also applying section 14 (1) exemption: *oppressive burden on the authority*

\*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](http://www.ico.org.uk).

Yours,



**Rachel Montinaro**  
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records