

Ref: FOI2017/3801  
Date Received: 28<sup>th</sup> February 2017  
Response Due: 28<sup>th</sup> March 2017

5<sup>th</sup> April 2017

Dear

## INFORMATION REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

We are now pleased to respond to your request for information under the FOI Act.

You asked:

### Question 1

- In the last 12 months, have you sub-contracted any surgical activity to non-NHS providers (e.g. providers such as Ramsay Health Care, Nuffield Health, BMI, Spire, Care UK)?

Yes

### Question 2

- If yes, which kind of private providers were used to undertake such services? Please select which apply and the name of the sub-contracted companies which were used

Type of provider	Provider type used? [Y/N]	Name of provider(s)
a. Private secondary hospitals	Y	Ramsay Health Care UK Pall Mall Medical Ltd]
b. Independent Sector Treatment Centre	N	Manchester Fertility Fusion Care Manchester
c. Mobile Operating Theatre (such as those provided by Vanguard Healthcare)	N	
d. Other [Please specify]	N	

Chairman: Robert Armstrong  
Chief Executive: Andrew Foster CBE

### Question 3

- Please indicate what was the main cause of the need to sub-contract activity (please allocate an approximate % if multiple reasons)

Cause	Approximate %
a. Reduce Trust waiting list	100% (Pain and Dental)
b. Lack of available Theatre Capacity (theatres fully utilised)	
c. Lack of available Theatre Capacity (1 or more theatres not operational due to refurbishment etc.)	
d. Lack of available beds	
e. Lack of Consultants	
f. Other [Please specify]	100% (ACU – we don't have embryology facilities / licence)

### Question 4

- What were the major surgical specialities that were sub-contracted (e.g. Orthopaedics, Ophthalmology etc.)
  - If possible, please provide an estimated % split by speciality of total sub-contracted spend

	Surgical speciality	Approximate spend %
1	Pain management	58
2	Dental	7
3	Assisted conception	35
4		
5		

### Question 5

- How much was spent by the Trust on sub-contracted surgical activity over the last 12 months?
  - Was this an increase, decrease or similar amount to the previous 12 months?
  - If possible, please provide an estimation of this increase/ decrease (as a %)

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Sub-Question	Answer
Amount spent by the Trust on sub-contracted surgical activity over the last 12 months	£244,010
– Increase, decrease or similar amount to the previous 12 months	Decrease of £69,001
– Estimation of this increase/ decrease (as a %)	Decrease of 24%

## Question 6

- Do you currently have an operational Private Patient Unit?
  - If no, do you plan to open one in the next 12 months?

Sub-Question	Answer
· Do you currently have an operational Private Patient Unit?	Yes
– If no, do you plan to open one in the next 12 months?	

## Question 7

- If no, what is the reason that you have not opened a Private Patient Unit to date (please allocate an approximate % if multiple reasons)?

Reason	Approximate %
a. Lack of private patient population in region	
b. Not seen as a current priority as far as Trust strategy	
c. Lack of Trust capex to invest	
d. Lack of time to plan and build	
e. Concerned about the public relations impact of opening one	
f. Other (please specify)	

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I trust that this information is helpful to you, however if you are not entirely satisfied with this response please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department on 01257 488271. If we do not hear from you within 28 days we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,



**Rob Forster**  
**Deputy Chief Executive/Director of Finance & Informatics**

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If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF