

Information Governance

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Ref: FOI2018/4876

Date Received: 16th August 2018
Response Due: 14th September 2018

13th September 2018

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:

This request refers to a time period of the second quarter of 2018, or the months April, May and June of 2018.

Please work downward through the following requests until the limits are reached:

1. Documents describing procedures for collaboration with immigration enforcement, specifically including policy concerning to but not limited to the following: [None](#)
 - a. Responses to requests for patient information by immigration enforcement. If this is covered by general policy concerning information shared with law enforcement, please provide this in addition. [None](#)
 - b. Information routinely shared with immigration enforcement (as differentiated from information shared with the home office in general for the purposes of charging for secondary care). For example, this might include a policy of reporting suspicious patients or patients who do not have UK citizenship or indefinite leave to remain. If this is covered by general policy concerning information shared with law enforcement, please provide this in addition. [None](#)
 - c. Policy surrounding the presence of immigration enforcement officers on hospital grounds. If this is covered by general policy covering the presence of law enforcement officers, please provide this in addition. [None](#)
2. The number of incidences of patient information being shared with immigration enforcement, and the number that occurred within the time period specified above. If the cost of a time-unlimited search is likely to exceed the limits imposed by the act, please limit it to incidents since 2016, and if that is likely to exceed the cost limits, solely provide the incidents in the time period above. Please also provide, if known(both for the period specified above and in total): [Nil](#)

- a. The number of these incidents in which the patient was in primary care.
 - b. The number of incidents where this information resulted in an arrest.
 - c. The number of incidents where this information resulted in a deportation.
 - d. The number of incidents where this information resulted in proceedings to deport, but where the deportation has not been completed. (or, if numbers of deportations are not known, total numbers of proceedings initiated)
 - e. The number of known incidents involving the presence of immigration enforcement officers on hospital grounds for the purposes of immigration enforcement (so excluding, for example, officers receiving medical treatment).
3. Any and all written communication with immigration enforcement, and any notes, transcripts, minutes or summaries of meetings or conversations with immigration enforcement offices, redacted as appropriate. [None](#)

It is worth noting that this request differentiates between the home office in general and immigration enforcement (a law enforcement command within the home office), and does not relate to interactions your trust has with the home office relating to, for example, charging for secondary care, unless immigration enforcement becomes subsequently involved.

Please feel free to redact information as necessary to protect pii. If you have concerns about small numbers of patients or incidents becoming personally identifiable, please provide these numbers of the form "0 incidents", "more than 0 but less than 3 incidents", and provide the number of incidents where there are more than 3.

Please note that neither immigration enforcement nor healthcare is generally a national security issue, and unless there are specific risks to national security relating to a specific incident that means documents cannot be disclosed under section 24, we will appeal refusals to provide documentation to the information commissioner's office and through the courts if necessary.

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 unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Wrightington Hospital, Hall Lane, Appley Bridge, Wigan, WN6 9EP

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