

Information Governance

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Ref: FOI2018/4710

Date Received: 1st June 2018
Response Due: 29th June 2018

28th June 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.

I would like to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act:

1. Please confirm or deny whether, in the six months between December 2017 and May 2018 (inclusive), the trust made any applications to the Home Office for Tier 2 (General) Certificates of Sponsorship (CoS) for doctors to work in the trust.

2. Please indicate how many such applications the trust made in the following months:

- a) December 2017*
- b) January 2018*
- c) February 2018*
- d) March 2018*
- e) April 2018*
- f) May 2018*

125 applications (clinical staff) since 26th March 2018

3. Please indicate how many applications to the Home Office for Tier 2 (General) Certificates of Sponsorship (CoS) for doctors to work in the trust were refused in the following months:

- a) December 2017*
- b) January 2018*
- c) February 2018*
- d) March 2018*
- e) April 2018*
- f) May 2018*

122 applications (clinical staff) since 26th March 2018 were refused.

4. Please indicate what the financial cost to the trust was in the six months between December 2017 and May 2018 (inclusive) for recruiting doctors from outside the EEA whose applications for visas were subsequently refused. (If an exact figure is not available, please provide an estimate of the total or the typical cost involved in recruiting a doctor from outside the EEA and applying for a Tier 2 visa. Please include costs of staff time, administrative fees, agency fees, and any other associated costs.)

Any doctors recruited by the Trust within the 6 months between December 2017 and May 2018 have all had their visas approved has a result of us applying for them a CoS, therefore there has been zero cost to the trust.

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,



Andrew Foster
Chief Executive

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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