

Information Governance
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Ref: FOI2019/5630

Date Received: 29th August 2019

Response Due: 26th September 2019

17th September 2019

Dear

INFORMATION REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

You asked:

I am writing to request information relating to the pension tax relief issue that is currently impacting a significant number of NHS employees across the country. I would be grateful if you could respond to the following questions. Please advise if you need any clarification and I would be happy to provide this.

1. Whether your organisation has a policy of offering payment equivalent to the employer pension fund contributions to employees who opt out of the scheme? No

And if so:

a) When was this policy adopted? N/A

b) Is this option offered to all employees by default, or is it considered on a case by case basis following requests? N/A

c) How many employees have taken advantage of this policy since its adoption? N/A

d) What was the total value of payments made until the end of July 2019? N/A

2. Whether your organisation has made an assessment of the number of employees who are likely breach the annual allowance? No

If so, what assessment was made? N/A

3. How many employees have left employment as a result of pension taxation issues?

We do not record this information.

4. How many employees have applied to reduce their working hours as a result of pension taxation issues? None

And how many such applications were successful? N/A

5. Whether an internal briefing or assessment on the impact of changes to pension taxation has been provided?

The Trust does not provide pensions advice. An external pension's expert was invited to speak to staff regarding pensions and the potential impact on income tax. We do not have a copy of their presentation.

If so, could a copy of that document be provided? N/A

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