

Date: Tuesday, 06 August 2019
Our Ref: MB/KF FIRM 3934

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Re: Freedom of Information Request FIRM 3934

We are writing in response to your request submitted under the Freedom of Information Act, received in this office on 10th July 2019.

Your request was received as follows: -

1. Does your Trust/organisation permit clinicians to communicate about patients or other clinical matters (for example, a junior doctor discussing a patient with a consultant) using an instant messaging app (for example, WhatsApp, Forward, Siilo, Medicbleep, Skype for Business, Vocera, Rainbow)? – **No**
2. If yes, what is/are the names of the apps/devices? – **N/A**
3. If applicable, do your clinicians use their personal devices, or those provided by your Trust/Trust/organisation for the purposes referenced in question 1(for example, the ASCOM 'Myco 2')? – **N/A**
4. If such devices are provided by your Trust/organisation for use by clinicians, what is the make and model of each device? – **N/A**
5. If your Trust/organisation does not use any such app or device, please state whether your Trust/organisation is considering their use, stating which apps and/or devices are being considered. – **The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust (WCFT) can confirm this is currently under review.**
6. Please state whether your Trust/organisation has an instant messaging, or related policy. – **Yes**
7. Please attach your Trust/organisation's instant messaging, or related policy. – **Please see attached document**
8. Please state whether your Trust/organisation has carried out a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) for:
 - a. Instant messaging generally for the purposes mentioned in question 1. – **No**
 - b. Specific instant messaging apps/devices (each, if more than one) for the purposes mentioned in question 1. – **No**
9. Please enclose the DPIAs referred to in question 8. – **N/A**
10. If not included in your DPIA, please enclose your standard operating procedure and/or policies which specify how information is separated and, if necessary, extracted from the apps/devices where:

- a. A valid access request (e.g. patients, police etc.) is made for all patient information contained on the apps/devices. – [Please see attached document](#)
 - b. A valid access request is made for the personal data of a user of the apps/devices. – [Please see attached document](#)
11. Please state the number of reported incidents (categorised, if possible) concerning the devices/apps (each, if more than one). – 0

See our response above in [blue](#).

Re-Use of Public Sector Information

All information supplied by the Trust in answering a request for information (RFI) under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 will be subject to the terms of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005, Statutory Instrument 2005 No. 1515 which came into effect on 1st July 2005.

Under the terms of the Regulations, the Trust will licence the re-use of any or all information supplied if being used in a form and for the purpose other than which it was originally supplied. This license for re-use will be in line with the requirements of the Regulations and the licensing terms and fees as laid down by the Office of Public Sector Information (OPSI). Most licenses will be free; however the Trust reserves the right, in certain circumstances, to charge a fee for the re-use of some information which it deems to be of commercial value.

Further information can be found at www.opsi.gov.uk where a sample license terms and fees can be found with guidance on copyright and publishing notes and a Guide to Best Practice and regulated advice and case studies, at www.opsi.gov.uk/advice/psi-regulations/index.htm

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to the Freedom of Information Office at the address above.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

Mr Mike Burns, Executive Lead for Freedom of Information

