Date: Thursday, 26th October 2023
Our Ref: MB/CM FOI 5972

Sid Watkins Building
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Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI 5972
We are writing in response to your request submitted under the Freedom of Information Act, received in this office on 05th October 2023.
Your request was as follows:

I am writing with a Freedom of Information request regarding the use of healthcare and specialised transport services within your Trust.

To better understand how your trust procures healthcare and specialised transport services from the independent sector, please clarify how many private providers were contracted each year.

Additionally, please provide the following data for your Trust and for each financial year 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22, and 2022/23:

1.   For each independent provider, what was the spend (£ value) on independent sector providers for healthcare and specialised transport services within your Trust, and the respective volumes of patients / transportations that you realised with contracted independent sector providers, split by:

-     High Dependency (critically ill) patients

-     Neonatal (newborn / premature) patients

-     Non-Emergency patients

-     Other (patients, not included in previous splits)

-     Other (non-patients, such as equipment and medication)

If you are unable to provide both spend and volumes, or if you believe that this request will cost above the legal threshold for FOI responses, please deprioritise the data on volume and advise on alternative action.

Furthermore, if any of the specific splits are not available, please provide total figures for the system and specify which main splits are recorded by your trust (in-house / independent sector).

For your convenience, I have attached an Excel file for you to use and provide the requested information. Please return the completed file via email reply.

Please see attached.

Please 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, FOI 5972 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 by:

Post: Information Commissioners Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, CHeshire, SK9 5AF.

Online: https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/foi-and-eir-complaints/

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely
Mike Burns
Mr. Mike Burns, Executive Lead for Freedom of Information