

Our Ref: NG/RM/24398
Date: 27th November 2024

Nicola Griffiths
Deputy Director of Governance
North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust
Lawton House
Bellringer Road
Trentham
ST4 8HH

Reception: 0300 123 1535

Dear

Freedom of Information Act Request

I am writing in response to your e-mail of the 18th November 2024. Your request has been processed using the Trust's procedures for the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

Requested information:

1. How many clinical coders are employed by the Trust? **Two qualified clinical coders are employed by the Trust delivering one whole time equivalent to the Clinical Coding function.**
2. Who is responsible for the clinical coding team and who does that individual report into? **The Information Governance & Health Records Manager is responsible for Clinical Coding function, this post reports to the Head of Information Governance.**
3. What did the Trust spend on external coding support in the 2023-2024 financial year? **The Trust does not use any external clinical coding support.**
4. What is the current coding backlog? **The Clinical Coding function consistently operates with a minor backlog as it is completed retrospectively, it is currently operating within expected tolerances.**
5. How many Finished Consultant Episodes does the Trust complete per year? **The Trust completes approximately 1900 Finished Consultant Episodes per year.**
6. How many vacancies does the Trust currently have for clinical coding staff? **The Trust currently has no Clinical Coding vacancies.**

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review of the management of your request. 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: Dr Buki Adeyemo, Chief Executive, North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare Trust, Trust Headquarters, Lawton House, Bellringer Road, Trentham, ST4 8HH. 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.



Chair: Janet Dawson
Chief Executive: Dr Buki Adeyemo
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The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely



Nicola Griffiths
Deputy Director of Governance