

Our Ref: NG/RM/25152  
Date: 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025

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North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust  
Lawton House  
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Reception: 0300 123 1535

Dear

## Freedom of Information Act Request

I am writing in response to your e-mail of the 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2025. Your request has been processed using the Trust's procedures for the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

### ***Requested information:***

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please provide the following information about your procurement of any

- i. External Data Protection Officer (DPO)
- ii. Data protection GDPR compliance services for the period FY2022-23 to FY2024-25:

#### 1. Current DPO arrangements

1.1 Is the organisation's DPO and other staff that work on data protection Compliance:

- (a) An internal employee. **Yes**
- (b) A DPO provided by an external service provider. **No**
- (c) Hybrid (internal staff with external service provider support). **No**

1.2 Where services are provided by external providers, please share the following information: **N/A**

- (a) The Company name(s)
- (b) Annual spend by your organisation (FY2022/2023 through to FY2024/2025)
- (c) The highest day rate paid
- (d) Contract dates (start/end/renewal terms)
- (e) A brief description of the project or services provided (for instance, project title or internal reference)
- (f) Services covered (e.g., audits, breach management, SAR management, delivery of DPIAs). Please indicate what deliverables were produced and Procurement method (e.g., open competition, framework agreement, direct award) and name of the procurement framework, if applicable.

#### 2. Consultancy Spend

2.1 What is the organisation's, total annual expenditure on data protection/GDPR consultancy services? **£0**

2.2 For SoW/projects which have a spend of more than £5k), please share the following information:

- Supplier company name. **N/A**
- The scope of the Project (e.g., "ICO investigation support", DPIA support, Internal Audit recommendation support). **N/A**
- Spend. **N/A**
- Procurement method. **N/A**

### 3. Data Protection Compliance staffing

3.1 The Number of in-house data protection staff in the organisation? (FTE). **3 FTE**

3.2 Are there any vacant roles? **No**

3.3 Where there any ICO investigations, audits, or enforcement actions for the period from FY2022/2023 to FY 2024/2025? **No**

### 4. Future Plans

4.1 Is your organisation planning to put out to tender for any DPO/GDPR services in the current financial year? **No**

4.2 If yes please provide the following:

- Expected timeline. **N/A**
- Budget range. **N/A**
- Key service requirements. **N/A**
- Procurement method. **N/A**

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. 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**