

Our Ref: NG/RM/25195
Date: 25th June 2025

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 23rd May 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:

- 1) How much was spent on secure mental health patient transfers by private ambulances in the 6 months to 31st March 2025? **£98k**
 - 2) How many journeys were made on secure mental health patient transfers by private ambulances in the 6 months to 31st March 2025? **Approximately 60.**
 - 3) Please provide a list of all private ambulance companies used for secure mental health patient transfers in the 6 months to 31st March 2025 and for each detail: **Main provide is Exclusive Secure Transport**
 - a) Number of jobs. **Approximately 60.**
 - b) Cost of providing the service by role (RMN, HCA hourly rates).
 - c) Cost per mile charge.
 - d) Service / admin charge.
- The Trust has considered this part of the request as exempt under section 43 (2) as release of the information is likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any person (A person may be an individual, a company, the public authority itself or any other legal entity).**
- e) Average size of the transfer team by role (RMN, HCA). **This varies and is based on risk, it can be up to 3 HCA and 1 RMN.**
 - 4) How much was spent on mental health patient bed watch by private companies in the 6 months to 31st March 2025? **0**
 - 5) How many mental health patients were looked after by private bed watch companies in the 6 months to 31st March 2025? **0**

- 6) Please provide a list of all companies that provided mental health patient bed watch services in the 6 months to 31st March 2025 and for each detail:
 - a) Number of patients looked after. **N/A**
 - b) Cost of providing the service by role (RMN, HCA hourly rates). **N/A**
 - c) Cost per mile charge. **N/A**
 - i. Service / admin charge. **N/A**
 - ii. Average size of the team by role (RMN, HCA). **N/A**
- 7) What is the selection criteria for deciding which companies to use for secure mental health patient transfer by private ambulances? **The Trust has a PO order with the current provide and will be tendering the services in the next few weeks.**
- 8) What is the selection criteria for deciding which companies to use for mental health patient bed watch by private companies? **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