

Our Ref: NG/RM/26037
Date: 3rd March 2026

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

Reception: 0300 123 1535

Dear

Freedom of Information Act Request

I am writing in response to your e-mail of the 11th February 2026. Your request has been processed using the Trust's procedures for the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

Requested information:

Freedom of Information Act Request: Impact of NHS financial requirements

SECTION ONE: financial breakeven requirements

From 2025-26, NHS England's financial framework requires NHS Trusts to meet a statutory breakeven duty. Where possible, trusts must avoid in-year deficits and recover prior deficits.

1. Please provide the Trust's in-year deficit or surplus for 2024–25, and it's estimated in-year deficit or surplus for 2025–26, 2026–27 and 2027–28. (Where the Trust plans to break even, please confirm this. Where a deficit or surplus is projected, please state the estimated value.)
 - **2024/25- £3,521k**
 - **2025/26- £1,750k**
 - **2026/27- £154k**
 - **2027/28- £258k**

SECTION TWO: efficiency, productivity and cost-reduction requirements

NHS England has set mandatory efficiency measures, including reducing organisational cost base by at least 1%; delivering around 4% productivity improvement; reducing corporate service spending to pre-pandemic levels; and reducing reliance on temporary and agency staffing.

2. Workforce reductions and permanently deleted posts
 - a. Please provide the total number of job cuts, redundancies or post reductions that the Trust has identified, planned or already implemented as a result of its breakeven duty and associated financial planning. If possible, please provide this information by financial year: 2025–26, 2026–27 and 2027–28. **0**

This should include job cuts or redundancies, and posts that have already been permanently deleted whether or not this resulted in redundancy.

Where possible, and within statutory cost limits, please break this information down by staff group, for example: clinical staff, non-clinical staff, corporate / administrative staff

Please express figures in full-time equivalent (FTE). Where only headcount figures are held, please provide these instead and indicate this.

b. Method of workforce reduction and post deletion

Where possible, please provide a breakdown of how the workforce reductions and permanent post deletions described in section 2a are being or will be achieved, for example through compulsory redundancies, voluntary redundancies, non-renewal of fixed-term contracts, natural wastage, vacancy controls or recruitment freezes. **N/A**

Where data is held, please break this information down by staff group (clinical/non-clinical/corporate, or equivalent categories used by the trust) and by financial year (2025–26, 2026–27, 2027–28).

SECTION THREE: planned service reductions

Breakeven planning may involve changes to service delivery, including reductions, reconfiguration or cessation of services.

Request (section three):

3. Please outline any services, departments or functions that the Trust has identified for reduction, reconfiguration or closure as part of its breakeven duty and medium-term financial plan and indicate in which financial year(s) these changes are planned (2025–26, 2026–27 and/or 2027–28). **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

Chair: Janet Dawson
Chief Executive: Dr Buki Adeyemo
www.combined.nhs.uk

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