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Our Ref: ID 439

## Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) which was received into this office on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2016.

We have set out your requests and our responses using your numbering below. However, for convenience, please note that we have dealt with them in a different order.

### You Asked for:

**1) All correspondence between yourselves and The Lantern Project or any of its staff members voluntary or otherwise.**

**4) Minutes of any meetings held with The Lantern Project**

In respect of requests 1) and 4), we confirm that we hold information of this description.

The Lantern Project was a commissioned provider with NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013. As a result there are large volumes of correspondence between the CCG and The Lantern Project held by the CCG. Records of meeting(s) between the parties are also held by the CCG, but these are typically contained within such correspondence rather than in separate documentation.

Section 12 of the FOIA provides that a public authority is not obliged to comply with a request for information where it estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the 'appropriate limit'.

The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 set the appropriate limit at £450 for public authorities such as the CCG. The Regulations provide that the time spent on such activities should be calculated at the flat rate of £25 per person, per hour. The appropriate limit is therefore equivalent to 18 hours work.

In estimating the cost of complying with a request the public authority can take into account the cost of determining whether information is held and locating, retrieving and extracting the information requested. The estimated cost of dealing with requests which relate to the same or similar information can be aggregated together when estimating whether the appropriate limit would be exceeded.

In this case we estimate that locating, retrieving and reviewing the information requested would exceed the appropriate limit. Consequently we believe that this request falls under section 12 of the FOIA and we do not consider that we are required to comply with your request.

However, we would be willing to provide you with advice and assistance to help you to refine your request so that it can be dealt with under the appropriate limit. For example, if you are able to specify the nature of the correspondence/minutes you require, or the senders/recipients of such information within the CCG to The Lantern Project, then we can review this further for you.

**2) All correspondence concerning The Lantern Project and Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU) that relates to the research project into UDT that was being undertaken by The Lantern Project and LJMU.**

**3) All correspondence relating to the use of patient data in The Lantern Project's research with JMU**

In respect of requests 2) and 3), we confirm that we hold information of this description.

In light of the nature of the correspondence requested, as part of our process for handling your request we sought LJMU's views on disclosure of this information. We have been informed by LJMU of a similar request made by you to LJMU on 10 March 2016. We understand that LJMU responded on 17 March 2016 and 1 April 2016 enclosing copies of the information requested.

We have cross referenced the information we hold of the description you have specified with the information recently provided to you by LJMU. We confirm that the CCG does not hold any information beyond that which has already been provided by LJMU.

Under section 21 of the FOIA, information which is accessible to an applicant by other means is exempt from disclosure. As you have recently been provided with the requested information by LJMU, we consider that it is accessible to you and that this exemption applies. We are therefore not providing you with further copies of the information.

To the extent that the information provided by LJMU contained redactions under section 40(2) in respect of personal data, we also rely on such exemptions in respect of the redacted information.

**5) A breakdown of all financial grants by Wirral CCG to The Lantern Project**

We confirm that the CCG has not paid any financial grants to The Lantern Project.

However, please see below details of payments made for services commissioned by the CCG:

1<sup>st</sup> April 2013 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014 - £45k

1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015 - £140k

1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 - £106k (*Note: payments stopped at the end of December 2015*)

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