

25 July 2017

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E: [nhsi.enquiries@nhs.net](mailto:nhsi.enquiries@nhs.net)  
W: [improvement.nhs.uk](http://improvement.nhs.uk)

By email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

### **Request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the "FOI Act")**

I refer to your email of 30 June 2017 in which you requested information under the FOI Act from NHS Improvement. Since 1 April 2016, Monitor and the NHS Trust Development Authority are operating as an integrated organisation known as NHS Improvement.

### **Your request**

You made the following request:

*"In 2013 consideration was given to a merger between parts of University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust and North Bristol NHS Trust. The result of this enquiry was published in your document Publication code: IRREP 19/13*

*Please can you supply me, under the Freedom of Information Act, with the following Information*

- 1. What was the total cost of the above enquiry*
- 2. Who funded the total cost of the enquiry*
- 3. What was the amount of money in total paid to private external advisers and or Consultants and how was this money spent ( a break down of the costs/fees/disbursements)."*

### **Decision**

NHS Improvement holds some information relevant to your request and has decided to release this.

We do not hold information in relation to any costs incurred by University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust and North Bristol NHS Trust or any other stakeholder to the enquiry.

NHS Improvement's response to your questions is as follows:

**1. What was the total cost of the above enquiry?**

This enquiry was carried out by the Cooperation and Competition Panel ("CCP"). The conduct of the enquiry passed to Monitor when it took on its new powers on 1 April 2013. The cost of the investigation was met from the budget of the CCP and subsequently Monitor. Neither the CCP nor Monitor recorded separate costs for this investigation.

**2. Who funded the total cost of the enquiry?**

The CCP was funded through the Department of Health, as was Monitor.

**3. What was the amount of money in total paid to private external advisers and or Consultants and how was this money spent (a break down of the costs/fees/disbursements)?**

Both the CCP and Monitor drew on the expertise of the CCP panel members and clinical reference group ("CRG") during this enquiry. When Monitor took on its new powers in April 2013 for the purposes of this enquiry the panel and CRG transferred to Monitor but retained their distinct identities and continued to work on the enquiry in the same way. More information about the CCP's role, its panel members and the members of the CRG can be found here: <https://www.ccp-panel.org.uk/>. No private or external advisers or consultants were used as part of this review by the CCP or Monitor.

**Review rights**

If you consider that your request for information has not been properly handled or if you are otherwise dissatisfied with the outcome of your request, you can try to resolve this informally with the person who dealt with your request. If you remain dissatisfied, you may seek an internal review within NHS Improvement of the issue or the decision. A senior member of NHS Improvement's staff, who has not previously been involved with your request, will undertake that review.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of any internal review, you may complain to the Information Commissioner for a decision on whether your request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the FOI Act.

A request for an internal review should be submitted in writing to FOI Request Reviews, NHS Improvement, Wellington House, 133-155 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8UG or by email to [nhsi.foi@nhs.net](mailto:nhsi.foi@nhs.net).

## **Publication**

Please note that this letter will shortly be published on our website. This is because information disclosed in accordance with the FOI Act is disclosed to the public at large. We will, of course, remove your personal information (e.g. your name and contact details) from the version of the letter published on our website to protect your personal information from general disclosure.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Laura Harvey', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Laura Harvey**  
Senior Legal Adviser

