

28 March 2018

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London SE1 8UG

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██████████
By email
████████████████████

Dear ██████████,

Request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the “FOI Act”)

We refer to your email of 28 February 2018 in which you requested information under the FOI Act from NHS Improvement. Since 1 April 2016, Monitor and the NHS Trust Development Authority have been operating as an integrated organisation known as NHS Improvement. For the purposes of this decision, NHS Improvement means Monitor and the TDA.

Your request

You made the following request (some of the numbering has been inserted by NHS Improvement for ease of reference):

“FOI request: Whistleblower employment support scheme - establishment of a pool of employers

NHS Improvement has indicated that it held three workshops in September and October 2017 with NHS trusts about the whistleblower employment support scheme.

Please disclose:

- 1. Which NHS trusts attended these workshops*
- 2. Copies of correspondence from NHS Improvement inviting trusts to attend the workshops, including any enclosures and attachments, and information given to trusts by NHS Improvement about the employment support scheme.*
- 3. Correspondence from NHS Improvement to employers since the pilot phase of the employment scheme was launched, about opportunities for whistleblowers in terms of:*
 - access to libraries*
 - consideration of training opportunities*
 - shadowing*
 - guaranteed interviews for participants on the scheme*

- placements

4. Please advise

- How many trusts were asked about access to libraries
- How many trusts were asked about consideration of training opportunities
- How many trusts were asked about shadowing
- How many trusts were asked about guaranteed interviews for participants on the scheme
- How many trusts were asked about placements

Please indicate which trusts were asked to provide the above types of support.

5. Please advise if the trusts that were asked to provide these types of support were screened for suitability. If so, please advise how they were screened.

6. Please advise

- How many trusts agreed to provide access to libraries
- How many trusts agreed to provide training opportunities
- How many trusts agreed to provide shadowing
- How many trusts agreed to provide guaranteed interviews for participants on the scheme
- How many trusts agreed to provide placements

Please indicate which trusts agreed to provide the above types of support.”

Decision

NHS Improvement holds the information that you have requested and has decided to release all of the information that it holds.

NHS Improvement will respond to each question in turn.

Question 1

Please refer to the attached spreadsheet.

Question 2

Events were organised jointly between NHS England (NHSE) and NHS Improvement (NHSI); the invite and agenda have been attached. Invites were sent using a system by NHSE which enabled organisations to book on a date electronically.

Question 3

Opportunities were discussed during these events. Further correspondence and conversations are continually being held with trusts that participants on the pilot scheme

have identified as being within their area. This is so that we can communicate with trusts/organisations within participants' catchment areas to focus on opportunities locally.

Question 4

All trusts who attended the Employers Workshops were asked to consider the list plus suggest any other support opportunities they felt they could consider.

Question 5

A checklist for screening trusts' suitability/readiness to support participants is currently being collated and will be discussed with the Design and Monitoring Group who have already been asked to think of how this can be done.

Question 6

Please see the attached spreadsheet which indicates initial commitments by trusts during the Employer Workshops

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.

Publication

Please note that this letter and the attached information 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,

NHS Improvement