



FOI 3139

Date 28/06/2024

Dear Requester,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request. Please note, this is a cross-site response for Bedford site and Luton site.

You asked:

I am writing to make a formal request for information under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding collaborative working (including joint working) projects with pharmaceutical and related companies that your organisation is involved in.

For clarity, by “collaborative” I mean *projects/initiatives where by you are working with one or more pharmaceutical companies to deliver enhanced patient care or are for the benefit of patients or alternatively benefit the NHS and, as a minimum, maintain patient care. By “Joint working” I mean projects/initiatives involving working between one or more pharmaceutical company and healthcare organisation(s), which is patient-centred and always benefits patients.*

For each collaborative/joint working project entered into from April 2019 to today please detail:

- Name of project/initiative
- Date entered into the project/initiative
- Name of the pharmaceutical company/companies
- Name of the NHS organisations involved
- The aims/goals used to justify the project
- Resources planned to be utilized in the projections, or assessments conducted by your organisations on the outcomes or impact of these joint working projects
- When the project/initiative is planned to be complete

I would like to emphasise that this request is made aiming to enhance transparency and accountability in the collaboration between the NHS and the pharmaceutical industry.

Answer:

The Trust can confirm that there are currently no projects in our pharmacy department involving pharmaceutical companies.

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Please note that the Trust has a formal internal review and complaints process which is managed by the Information Governance Manager/Data Protection Officer. Should you have any concerns with our response, you can make a formal request for an internal review. Requests for internal review should be submitted within three months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter, and should be addressed to: dataprotectionofficer@ldh.nhs.uk. This option is available to you for up to three calendar months from the date your response was issued.

If you are not satisfied with the Trust review under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Officer (ICO) for a review of your appeal decision. The ICO can be contacted at: ICO, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF www.ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

FOI Officer

Bedfordshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust