

Information Governance

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28 February 2019

Reference no.18190406

Dear

Request for Information: Freedom of Information Act

Thank you for your email of 31st January making a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. You requested the following information and the Trust is able to provide the information below in response:

Request:

As a result of HMRC's changes to the pensions Lifetime Allowance ('the LTA') and Annual Allowance ('the AA') many of our members have left the NHS Pensions Scheme. This results in NHS Employers saving the employer pension contributions which they would have paid into our members' pensions had they not left the scheme. We have been made aware of some NHS Employers operating policies to enable such scheme leavers to apply for and receive payment of the monies which their NHS Employer would have paid into their pension in the form of employer pension contributions. The following request for information relates to the monies which you, as the NHS Employer, have saved from unpaid employer pension contributions in the way described above.

1. Do you have a policy (written or unwritten) by which one of your employees who is leaving the NHS Pension Scheme may be able to receive after leaving the scheme payment(s) equivalent to or calculated in relation to the employer pension contributions which you, as the NHS Employer, would have paid to his/her pension had they not left the scheme?
2. If you, as the NHS Employer, do not have such a policy, did you used to have one or do you intend to implement one? If you intend to implement such a policy, when do you expect that the policy will be implemented?
3. If you, as the NHS Employer, do have such a policy, how many doctors and how many non doctors that you employ have benefitted from it by receiving payments under it?

4. What are the policy criteria for establishing employees' eligibility to receive such payments? Please provide a copy of the policy or any other documents evidencing the eligibility criteria and rules.

Response:

1. No
2. No
3. N/A, no policy.
4. N/A, no policy

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to me and I will ensure the decision is reviewed. The Trust will consider undertaking a review if requested to do so within 40 working days of the date the response is received by the applicant, and will apply discretion if a longer period of time has passed.

Should you wish to make a complaint as a result of the outcome of such a review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision.

Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Trust for FoI Act matters.

The ICO can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF

Please contact me if there are any further queries.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Mark Underwood

Head of Information Governance