

## **Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)**

### **Decision notice**

**Date:** 10 February 2014

**Public Authority:** Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust (the trust)

**Address:** Whinneys Heys Road  
Blackpool  
FY3 8NR

#### **Decision (including any steps ordered)**

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1. The complainant requested copies of various board papers.
2. The trust provided the information but breached s10(1) FOIA by doing so outside the time for compliance.
3. The Commissioner does not require the public authority to take any further steps.

#### **Request and response**

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4. On 30 November 2012 the complainant requested various papers and minutes of the trust's Board of Directors meetings.
5. On 16 January 2013 the trust supplied the information but redacted three papers under s41 FOIA.
6. The complainant appealed on 18 January 2013. On 12 February the trust's internal review upheld the s41 exemption in part. It also considered that s40, s42 and s43(2) applied to the redacted information.

## **Scope of the case**

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7. The complainant contacted the Commissioner on 4 April 2013 to complain about the way his request for information had been handled.

## **Reasons for decision**

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8. Following the Commissioner's intervention the trust agreed to release the redacted information. The disclosure was completed on 29 October 2013.
9. As the trust had not provided the requested information within 20 working days of the date of request it contravened s10 of the FOIA.

## Right of appeal

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10. Either party has the right to appeal against this decision notice to the First-tier Tribunal (Information Rights). Information about the appeals process may be obtained from:

First-tier Tribunal (Information Rights)  
GRC & GRP Tribunals,  
PO Box 9300,  
LEICESTER,  
LE1 8DJ

Tel: 0300 1234504

Fax: 0116 249 4253

Email: [GRC@hmcts.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:GRC@hmcts.gsi.gov.uk)

Website: [www.justice.gov.uk/tribunals/general-regulatory-chamber](http://www.justice.gov.uk/tribunals/general-regulatory-chamber)

11. If you wish to appeal against a decision notice, you can obtain information on how to appeal along with the relevant forms from the Information Tribunal website.
12. Any Notice of Appeal should be served on the Tribunal within 28 (calendar) days of the date on which this decision notice is sent.

**Signed .....**

**Rachael Cragg**  
**Group Manager – Complaints Resolution**  
**Information Commissioner’s Office**  
**Wycliffe House**  
**Water Lane**  
**Wilmslow**  
**Cheshire**  
**SK9 5AF**