

These matters are directly relevant to the public interest test. I recognise the strong public interest in accountability and transparency in relation to the actions of NHS foundation trusts and in the performance of our regulatory functions. Those factors must however be balanced against the detrimental impact if the information were to be disclosed. Taking into account the reliance that Monitor places on the voluntary provision of information and opinions by providers and third parties in support of its regulatory functions, and the impact that disclosure would have in this respect, I have concluded that the public interest in this case is better served by withholding the information requested.

Review rights

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

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 blue ink, appearing to read 'P. Chandler', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Paul Chandler

Regional Director