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Request for Information Reference: 04.23.36

FOI Direct line: 01325 743700
Email: cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net

Email only

11th May 2023

Dear

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 18th April 2023 in relation to County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (the Trust). Your request has been processed under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and I am now able to provide you with a response.

Your request was in relation to Non-Elective Admissions and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

Please provide me with data for the year 2022-23 for the following information by Hospital site for the trust (ideally expressed as a tally by hour for each):

- 1. The total number of non-elective admissions by hour of day and number of discharges from inpatient wards by hour of day that non-elective patients are discharged**

Please see the spreadsheet you requested to be completed (tab 1)

- 2. The total number of non-elective inpatients sent to the discharge lounge by hr of day & hour of day patients leave the discharge lounge (if applicable)**

Please see the spreadsheet that you requested to be completed (tab 2) – Please note that the discharge lounge is not a 24 hour service.

3. Time of day that Pathology requests for non-elective patients are sent & time of day requests for imaging are received

The systems utilised in our Pathology and Radiology services do not allow the Trust to interrogate the data to provide a response for your request. We would advise under section 16 of the FOIA, that if you are seeking information about specific tests and their turnaround times, please contact the team who will work with you to understand how best to process a request.

4. Time of day that requests for prescriptions are sent to Pharmacy and time that Pharmacy deliver prescriptions to NEL inpatients

Please see the spreadsheet you requested to be completed (tab 4) for the first part of this question.

The second part of your question is unable to be answered. In order to provide this data the Trust would need to collate and review a significant amount of handwritten delivery notes (in excess of a thousand) in order to tabulate the data and answer your request. Therefore, we are refusing this section of your request for information pursuant to section 12 of the Act on the grounds that we estimate that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit. The appropriate limit at the present time is £450.00 which equates to eighteen hours of work by a member of staff at the rate of £25 per hour.

5. Time of day that inpatient requests are completed

The Trust does not have not have electronic discharge notification.

Please provide the information in the template attached.

Please find enclosed the spreadsheet you requested to be complete.

In line with the Information Commissioner's directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log on the Trust's website. However please be assured that we anonymise all responses prior to adding them to the disclosure log.

I hope that this response has provided you with the information you had requested. If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone or in writing. If however, you are dissatisfied with the way in which your request has been handled and would like an internal review, you will need to contact me in writing at the above address or via cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.

If you remain dissatisfied with our response following an internal review you have the right to appeal to The Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane,

Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. More information is available on their website;
www.ico.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

Corporate Records and Freedom of Information Facilitator