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Request for Information Reference: 04.23.56

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

Email only

25th May 2023

Dear

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 25th 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 Hire of Private Ambulances and Crews and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act. Please could you provide me with the total cost (or nearest estimate) incurred by County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust for the hire of private ambulances and crews for each of the following calendar years:

- a) 2010
- b) 2011
- c) 2012
- d) 2013
- e) 2014
- f) 2015
- g) 2016
- h) 2017
- i) 2018
- j) 2019
- k) 2020
- l) 2021
- m) 2022
- n) **Costs incurred so far for provision in 2023**

Based upon the data we have available we estimate that the following costs relating to the hire of private ambulances:

1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019: £4,940
1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020: £17,522
1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021: £69,977
1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022: £209,840
1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023: £101,933
1st April 2023 to 31st May 2023: £495

Please note that it has not been possible to extract data pertaining to periods prior those reported above due to a change in financial system. The companies that supply private ambulances have also provided other services to the Trust during this period. The data that is provided is based upon best endeavours allocation of what is clearly related to the provision private ambulances hire.

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