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Request for Information Reference: 08.23.60

FOI Direct line: 01325 743700  
Email: [cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net](mailto:cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net)

Email only

21<sup>st</sup> September 2023

Dear

## Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 25<sup>th</sup> August 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 Cancer Longest waits and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

### 1. The number of people at your trust currently receiving treatment for cancer?

The Trust does not centrally record this information and estimates that it would take a significant amount of time to gather the information requested. In order to gather this information it would require a member of staff to validate every case individually to determine if treatment had finished. 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.

### 2. The number of people at your trust currently waiting to receive treatment for cancer?

103

**3. How long has the person who has waited the longest been waiting?**

202 days

**4. The number of people waiting to start cancer treatment, as measured from the date of urgent referral, who have waited longer than:**

- a) 62 days - 37
- b) 3 months - 15
- c) 4 months - 6
- d) 6 months - <5
- e) 12 months - 0

**5. The single longest wait to start cancer treatment, as measured from the date of the urgent referral, for each of the last three years?**

The Trust does not centrally record this information. In order to gather it, it would require a member of staff to manually go through every admission in the last 156 weeks to find the longest in each submission. 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.

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](mailto: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](http://www.ico.gov.uk).

Yours sincerely

**Corporate Records and Freedom of Information Facilitator**