

Executive Corridor  
Darlington Memorial Hospital  
Hollyhurst Road  
Darlington  
DL3 6HX  
Switchboard Tel: 01325 38 0100  
Foundation Trust Office: 01325 74 3625  
Corporate Records Office: 01325 74 3700

Request for Information Reference: 10.23.38

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

Email only

31<sup>st</sup> October 2023

Dear

## **Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information**

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 11<sup>th</sup> October 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 Wheelchair Assessment Waiting Times and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

### **FOI REQUEST:**

**Please could you provide the following (for the last financial year)**

#### **1. The average and median waiting times for an assessment by wheelchair services over that period**

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 manually examine the sets of patient's notes. 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 average and median waiting times for being provided with a wheelchair from application/referral to receipt of the chair during that period**

56 days

**3. The number of application/referrals received over the last financial year**

3,365

**4. For temporary periods of impairment - whether there is a recommended likely duration for the disability before which a chair can be provided**

The Trust only provides wheelchairs for long term need.

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**