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Request for Information Reference: 01.24.63

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

Email only

16th February 2024

Dear

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 19th January 2024 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 Communications and Public Relations Spend and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

Please provide your total spend on communications and public relations for the last three financial year's (20/21, 21/22, 22/23). For each year I would like a breakdown containing the following information:

1. Spend on communications and public relations activities.

2020/2021	- 77,535.95
2021/2022	- 50,107.73
2022/2023	- 293,225.01 **

** In 2022/2023, the communications team secured additional non-pay budget to support the development of a new public facing website to improve the experience of those we serve and a new digital display system to display more real time information across wards and departments.

2. Total number of communications and public relations employees.

2020/2021	- 5
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2021/2022 - 6
2022/2023 - 6

3. Total salary cost for all communications and public relations employees

2020/2021 - 209,276.42
2021/2022 - 261,149.92
2022/2023 - 289,339.20

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