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Email only

13 January 2015

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information received on 11 December 2014 in relation to the County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (Trust). We are dealing with your request under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You requested information regarding the waiting list initiative. Specifically you asked:

Please can you tell me the hourly rate for waiting list initiative (WLI) work the Trust has paid to consultants between June and December this year?

Please could you also tell me the hourly rate for waiting list initiative work paid to locum consultants between the same time period?

County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust replies:

The information required would not be reportable from the codes used in ESR as no specific code is used for the payment of WLI.

All medical staff are paid under the code ‘Temp Pas’ or for Junior doctors, ‘Temp Additional sessions’. The various rates are then calculated times the hours worked and paid in money.

All consultants, including locums are paid a different hourly rate depending on their individual salary and increment point. The rate can then alter depending upon whether Waiting List work is carried out during week or weekend and whether it’s a waiting list Outpatient clinic or a Theatre list. With all these variables there’d be a large number of different hourly rates that would take a number of days to gather.

We are therefore 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 and a quarter 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. Therefore, a version of our response which will protect your anonymity will be posted on the County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust website.

If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me on the above telephone number or at the above address.

If you are unhappy with the way your request for information has been handled, you can request a review by writing to:

The Chief Executive
County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust
Darlington Memorial Hospital
Hollyhurst Road
Darlington
DL3 6HX

If, you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, you have a right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner’s Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113
Website: www.ico.gov.uk.

There is no charge for making an appeal.

Yours sincerely

Joanna Tyrrell
Freedom of Information Officer