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Request for Information Reference: 01.16.19

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Email only

5 February 2016

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information received on 8 January 2016 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 finances used prevent patients being identified in media reports. Specifically you asked:

1) How much money has your Trust spent in total during the three financial years between April 2012 and April 2015 to prevent patients being identified in media reports? Please enter the answer into the supplied MS Excel template file in the cells under the column labelled "Q1".

2) How much money has your Trust spent in each financial year between April 2012 and April 2015 to prevent patients being identified in media reports? Please enter the answer into the supplied MS Excel template file in the cells under the columns labelled: "Q2 - 12/13"; "Q2 - 13/14"; "Q2 - 14/15".

3) How many separate court cases has your Trust launched in each financial year between April 2012 and April 2015 to prevent patients being identified in media reports? Please enter the answer into the supplied MS Excel template file in the cells under the columns labelled: "Q3 - 12/13"; "Q3 - 13/14"; "Q3 - 14/15".

4) How many Reporting Restriction Orders has your Trust obtained in each financial year between April 2012 and April 2015 to prevent patients being identified in media reports? Please enter the answer into the supplied MS Excel template file in the cells under the columns labelled: "Q4 - 12/13"; "Q3 - 13/14"; "Q3 - 14/15".

5) How many other privacy injunctions has your Trust obtained in each financial year between April 2012 and April 2015 to prevent patients being identified in media reports? Please enter the answer into the supplied MS Excel template file in the cells under the columns labelled: "Q5 - 12/13"; "Q3 - 13/14"; "Q3 - 14/15".

6) How many separate court cases has your trust launched in each financial year between April 2012 and April 2015 to prevent patients being identified in media reports where the mental capacity of the patient was an issue? Please enter the answer into the supplied MS Excel template file in the cells under the columns labelled: "Q6 - 12/13"; "Q4 - 13/14"; "Q4 - 14/15".

7) How many separate cases has your trust launched in each financial year between April 2012 and April 2015 to prevent patients being identified in media reports where the Trust acted with the family of the patient? Please enter the answer into the supplied MS Excel template file in the cells under the columns labelled: "Q7 - 12/13"; "Q4 - 13/14"; "Q4 - 14/15".

8) How many separate cases has your Trust launched in each financial year between April 2012 and April 2015 to prevent patients being identified in media reports where the Trust acted without the family of the patient? Please enter the answer into the supplied MS Excel template file in the cells under the columns labelled: "Q8 - 12/13"; "Q4 - 13/14"; "Q4 - 14/15".

9) Please enter any additional notes, caveats or general points into the supplied MS Excel template file in the cell under the column labelled "Additional notes".

If my request is denied in whole or in part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the Act.

I expect you to release all non-exempt material.

I would be interested in any information held by your organisation regarding my request. I understand that I do not have to specify particular files or documents and it is the department's responsibility to provide the information I require. If you need further clarification, my preferred method of contact is via email.

County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust replies:

We have not had any cases with regard the above matter ever being dealt with at the Trust.

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