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Darlington Memorial Hospital
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Foundation Trust Office: 01325 74 3625
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Request for Information Reference: 03.16.52

Direct line: 01325 743700
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Email only

28 April 2016

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information received on 30 March 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 patient attendances/occupancy over a 3 year period split by speciality and day of the week. Specifically you asked for:

Information for the period between 1 January 2013 to 31 December 2015 for activity taking place within the main hospital setting, excluding community services, home visits and telephone consultations.

1) Number of clinics split by;

- ***day of the week they take place***
- ***whether they are consultant led, nurse led or AHP led or other***
- ***Specialty of the clinic***

2) Number of outpatient attendances split by;

- ***day of the week they attended***
- ***whether the attendance was for a consultant led, nurse led, AHP led or other clinic***
- ***specialty of the clinic***

3) Number of ward attendances split by;

- ***day of the week they attended***
- ***specialty of the attendance***
- ***whether they attended in core hours or outside of core hours****

4) Number of A&E / walk in attendances split by;

- ***day of the week they attended***

- *whether or not they then went on to be admitted*
- *whether they attended in core hours or outside of core hours**

5) Number of inpatients in beds split by;

- *number of inpatients each day of the week***
- *type of ward the inpatients were on i.e. general ward, ITU, CCU, AMU etc.*
- *specialty of the diagnosis / procedure*
- *whether the patient was admitted as elective, urgent or emergency*
- *whether the patient underwent a procedure on that particular day*

**please state what you believe your core hours to be*

***the number of patients in a bed on any one day rather than length of stay*

For each of the above I would like to know where there is an expectation for consultation / treatment plan to be documented electronically?

County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust replies:

Please see the attached spreadsheet.

*Please note, where the day is unknown there was no date specified in the clinic template to say when the clinic is held.

**The hour tables are 24 hours by hour and a count, in acute care we do not have core hours, we are open 24hours a day, 7 days a week.

We have not used the template as split by individual days as it would take a member of staff over the statutory timescale to break down this information. We are also unable to provide the procedure data without going over the statutory timescale. 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.

The only attendances where we would expect the consultation/treatment plan to be documented electronically would be A&E and Urgent Care attendances.

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