

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: 01.18.01

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

Email only

10 January 2018

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information received on 2 January 2018 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 bailiffs. Specifically you asked:

1. How many times have bailiffs/debt collectors/debt recovery agents/enforcement agents or representatives from debt collecting firms visited hospitals in your Trust in the past five years? Please break down in each case by year, hospital and hospital department.

In each case, please also provide details as follows: which company the bailiffs/debt collectors were from, the amount of the debt owed, who it was owed to and what the bill was for, whether any items were seized and what those items were.

2. How many of the visits were court ordered and by which court?

3. How many procedures or appointments were delayed or cancelled as a result of bailiffs attending at the hospital and/or seizing equipment or items from it?

4. How much has the Trust spent on replacing or retrieving items or equipment seized by bailiffs/debt collectors?

5. What has the total cost been to the Trust of such incidents? Please break it down however possible.

County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust replies:

We are not aware of any visits in the last 5 years.

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