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Darlington Memorial Hospital
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Request for Information Reference: 02.18.13

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Email only

8 March 2018

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information received on 7 February 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 ward closures and & Cancelled Operations . Specifically you asked for:

I would like to make a Freedom of Information request to your trust.

Please can you provide us with the following information:

1. The name of your Trust and the names of hospital(s) you run?

Answer:
Darlington Memorial Hospital
University Hospital North Durham
Bishop Auckland Hospital
Shotley Bridge Hospital
Richardson Hospital
Sedgefield Community Hospital
Chester-Le-Street Community Hospital
Weardale Community Hospital

2. In the following years, how many times has the Trust had to close a maternity ward? Please list the month the closure(s) took place, the reason for the closure and how long it took to reopen

a) 2016

b) 2017

Answer: The maternity wards in the Trust never close. In line with recognised practice we occasionally look to support patients at one of our other hospitals in the

interests of patient's safety or in rare cases at neighbouring trusts to safely manage demand and capacity.

a) 2016	Total length	Reason
January	11hrs	workload
January	12hrs	workload
February	8hrs	workload
February	6hrs	workload
February	9hrs	workload
March	7hrs	workload
March	5hrs	workload
April	Not recorded	workload
May	5.15hrs	workload
June	5hrs	workload
July	17hrs	workload
July	5.35hrs	workload
September	6.15hrs	workload
October	10.45hrs	workload/sickness
b) 2017:	Total length	Reason
March	9.5 hours	workload
June	2 hours	work load

3. In the following years, how many times has the Trust had to close any ward (excluding maternity wards)? Please list the ward type, month the closure(s) took place, the reason for the closure and how long it took to reopen

a) 2016 - None

b) 2017 – Like all NHS organisations the Trust has strict infection control procedures and at times is required to carry out 'deep cleans' of ward areas or departments. This requires a ward area to close to facilitate cleaning. In 2017, Ward 5 at UHND was closed for 3 days to facilitate a deep clean.

4. In the following years how many times has the Trust cancelled an elective operation which was going to be carried out by a private provider/contractor?

a) 2016

b) 2017

Answer: None

5. From the answers in Q4 please provide the cancellation cost charged to the Trust by the private provider/contractor? Please give the total figure for the year and if possible the largest single cost charged to the Trust

a) 2016

b) 2017

Answer: N/A. The situation described does not arise.

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