

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: 07.18.29

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

Email only

15 August 2018

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information received on 18 July 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 walking aids. Specifically you asked :

This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act.

Can you please provide me in an EXCEL file (please make sure that your response will actually be in an EXCEL file not in PDF or WORD) with the following information?

1) How many crutches, walking frames and walking sticks were purchased by your Trust in the financial year 2017/18, 2016/17 and 2015/16 (please break the figure down by financial year)?

2) What was the total spend in the above years on a) crutches b) walking frames c) walking sticks (please break the figure down by financial year)?

3) How many have been given to patients and have not been returned in each financial year (please break the figure down by financial year)?

County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust replies:

Answer: Please see the attached spreadsheet relating to A&E only. In respect of all other services, the Trust contracts the service out to Medequip who supply patients

with medical aids on behalf of the Trust, such as crutches, walking frames etc. They accept the returned aids then check safety/suitability for re-use and re-issue accordingly. This has been in place since August 2015/16.

You will need to contact Medequip direct to obtain any of the other information. If you wish to contact them, we would advise, in accordance with Section 16 of the Act (duty to provide advice and assistance), that you contact them via the following email address: durhamanddarlington@medequip-uk.com

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