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Darlington Memorial Hospital
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Request for Information Reference: 07.18.63

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Email only

29 August 2018

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information received on 31 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 children's wards and play specialists. Specifically you asked for:

I write under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information.

- 1. On how many occasions was a:
i) locum employed to ensure medical rotas were filled**

Answer: Since 19 August 2017 there has been 304 episode where we have used a locum in Paediatrics at University Hospital of North Durham and Darlington Memorial Hospital.

ii) bank staff to ensure nursing rotas were filled for children's services during each calendar year from 2010 to 2018 (Year to Date) inclusive?

Answer: The Trust does not centrally record this information

- 2. On how many occasions has your paediatric inpatient unit (if you have one) temporarily suspended new admissions during each calendar year from 2010 to 2018 (Year to Date). Please detail the reasons why the unit temporarily did not accept new admissions, for example because staffing shortages.**

Answer: The units do not suspend admissions - children are triaged and then admitted to inpatient beds within the Trust. If there are bed capacity issues or

staffing issues these are logged on the Safeguard system. On the criteria given this information is not available to extract from the Ulysses risk management system.

3. If your Trust allows parents/guardians to sleep next to their child, if their child is receiving treatment, do you charge the parent/guardian for a bed in these situations? If so what is the charge per night?

Answer: Parents are encouraged to stay, there is no charge

4. Does your Trust hire a Full Time Equivalent (FTE) play specialist and does it run a play specialist service?

Answer: The Trust employs play specialists at both University Hospital of North Durham and Darlington Memorial Hospital. They provide 7 days per week cover and a play specialist service.

**5. What is :
i) your Trust's budget for a Full Time Equivalent (FTE) play specialist**

Answer: The budget supports 2.5 WTE Band 4 at UHND and 2.8 WTE Band 4 at DMH

ii) your Trust's budget for play specialist services? Please outline the budget for each financial year from 2010/11 through to 2017/18.

Answer: Please see spreadsheet attached.

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