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Foundation Trust Office: 01325 74 3625  
Corporate Records Office: 01325 74 3700

Request for Information Reference: 08.18.45

Direct line: 01325 743700  
Email: [cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net](mailto:cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net)

Email only

20 September 2018

### **Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information**

Thank you for your request for information received on 22 August 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 Bounty representatives. Specifically you asked for:

***Information regarding Bounty representatives being given access to hospital wards.***

***In the 12 months to date (23.08.18) please confirm the following:***

***1) Whether the Trust currently is, or has been in the past 12 months, engaged in a contract or written agreement with Bounty UK Limited. If the Trust is currently engaged in a contract please attach a copy of it, making necessary redactions in order to comply with the Act. Please provide the date that the contract began and/ or ended. Please provide an overview of the terms of payment. (i.e. per mother visited / per photo pack purchased).***

Answer: Yes we are engaged in a contract with Bounty. Contract commencement 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017 for 12 months with the option to extend by a further 2 x 12 months, we are now in the first extension period. A copy of the contract is attached, any service specification has been redacted, as commercially sensitive information we are unable to provide and have, therefore, withheld pursuant to Section 43 of the Act.

Section 43 (2) exempts from disclosure the following:

(2) Information, the disclosure of which would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person including those of the public authority holding the information.

The disclosure of this information would prejudice both the commercial interests of the supplier and the Trust. The disclosure of this information would provide any future suppliers with an unfair advantage with regards to the tender process.

The terms however are per photo presentation/mums seen. Start date 1st March 2018 (photo) 1yr agreement.

**2) Please confirm how much money has been paid to the Trust by Bounty UK Limited in the past 12 months and how many new mothers are recorded as having been approached by Bounty representatives (if held).**

Answer: We are unable to provide the information as requested on the grounds that this information is commercially sensitive and has, therefore, been withheld pursuant to Section 43 of the Act.

Section 43 (2) exempts from disclosure the following:

(2) Information, the disclosure of which would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person including those of the public authority holding the information.

The Trust does not record how many mothers have been seen by Bounty.

**3) Please provide details of the policies the Trust has in place with regards to protecting new mothers (i.e. are representatives allowed on any ward at any time, or do they have restricted access? Are mothers given the option to opt out of being visited?)**

Answer: Bounty abides by a strict bedside code of conduct (attached) and all our services are on the basis of choice plus all hospital procedures are followed.

**4) Please confirm the number of complaints made to the Trust by new parents. If not time prohibitive, please provide details of the complaints.**

Answer: No formal complaints have been made to the Trust.

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](http://www.ico.gov.uk).

There is no charge for making an appeal.

Yours sincerely

**Joanna Tyrrell**  
Freedom of Information Officer