

Executive Corridor
Darlington Memorial Hospital
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Darlington
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Request for Information Reference: 11.18.15

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Email only

11 December 2018

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information received on 13 November 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 the missed scheduled surgery costs. Specifically you requested information as follows:

Can you please tell me how many outpatients have missed scheduled surgery in the last three years (2016, 2017 and 2018 to date)?

Answer:

2016:	1455
2017:	731
2018 (Jan to Oct):	359

2016 is higher than other years as in 2016-17 Endoscopy was recorded as an inpatient stay but from Apr-2017 it moved to being recorded as an Outpatient.

Please note that we have interpreted 'missed scheduled surgery' as patients that failed to attend (FTAs) their operation by specialty for each of the requested years as attached.

What the total costs incurred by the Trust have been as a result of the missed surgery?

Answer: Please find attached spreadsheet. Please note that it is not possible to determine the costs incurred by the Trust as a result of the missed Surgery. As an approximation, the spreadsheet details the lost income from the activity as opposed to the total costs incurred as a result of the missed surgery. If patients were

subsequently booked then the income may still have been received. Given the actuals costs cannot be identified we have provided this information as a proxy.

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