

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: 11.18.47

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

Email only

10 December 2018

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information received on 26 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 Christmas decorations. Specifically you requested information as follows:

1 - In the last 5 years how many patient infections were caused by Christmas trees and or Christmas decorations within the Trust

The Trust does not collect data on infections caused by Christmas trees or decorations

All Christmas Decorations in clinical areas have potential for harbouring dust and can make cleaning difficult especially in areas experiencing outbreaks of norovirus or influenza which we see an increase in at this time of year. Therefore Infection control recommends that they are kept to a minimum.

2 - In the last 5 years how many fires were caused by Christmas trees and or Christmas decorations within the Trust

A Christmas tree or Christmas decoration cannot cause a fire, as they are sources of fuel and not sources of ignition.

In the last five years the trust has had no incidents of fire where a Christmas trees or decoration was a source of fuel

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