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Request for Information Reference: 12.18.10

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Email only

14 January 2019

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information received on 12 December 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 requests to use or access data. Specifically you requested information as follows:

The questions below are designed to help me and my organisation better understand the scale and scope of requests for information sharing arrangements being made of individual NHS trusts and their constituent hospitals by research organisations and businesses over the duration of the past 3 financial years.

Specifically, I would like to ask your NHS Trust about any requests to use or access data for commercial or research purposes of which, it is/has been a controller, joint controller or controller in common, in the financial years 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 as follows:

- ***The number of requests made in each of the financial years 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18;***
- ***The percentage of requests that have been accepted, rejected or held pending in each of the financial years 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18;***
- ***a breakdown of the form, size and sector type of the entities that made the requests in each of the financial years 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18;***
- ***a breakdown of the form, size and sector type of the entities whose requests were successful in each of the financial years 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18;***

- ***a percentage of those successful requests which resulted in the trust, or its constituent hospitals, entering into a commercial or financial relationship with the requestor or its affiliates in each of the financial years 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18.***
- ***Notwithstanding the above, can the trust confirm whether it, or one of its constituent hospitals, has entered into a commercial or financial relationship with any of the following entities as a result of the requests made in each of the financial years 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18? Google; DeepMind; Sensyne Health; Benevolent AI; Orion Health; IBM;#***
- ***can the Trust supply a copy of the Trust's intellectual policy document/s, if any covering the period 2015-present?***

County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust replies:

The Trust do not hold or record all of the data requested but have provided as much as routinely stored and provided context to that information where possible.

Information below relates exclusively to NIHR Commercial activity, this is the only area where this data is routinely collected and available to be reported. It is a very limited dataset due to this and its collection is not for this purpose; it is as close as is available.

- A) See Row 1 of Table 1
- B) See Row 2,3 and 4 of Table 1
- C) Information not available
- D) Information not available
- E) See Row 5, including clarification
- F) The Trust has not entered into a commercial or financial relationship with Google; DeepMind, Sensyne Health, Benevolent AI, Orion Health; or IBM.
- G) Intellectual Property Policy document attached, due to some organisational changes this is still in the process of being updated and reviewed.

Table 1

| Requests for use or access to data | 15-16 | 16-17 | 17-18 |
|------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Number received* | 395 | 272 | 317 |

| | | | |
|---|--------|--------|--------|
| %age accepted | 1.01% | 1.84% | 2.21% |
| %age rejected** | 90.38% | 87.50% | 91.80% |
| %age held pending | 8.61% | 10.66% | 5.99% |
| %age Trust entering financial relationship*** | 100% | 100% | 100% |

**This is the number of invitations to express an interest in taking part in a commercial research project on the NIHR Research Portfolio, therefore not a direct approach to our organisation nor a guarantee of acceptance to the project.*

***This percentage figure is made up of a number of reasons, approx. 90% of which is tied to lacking the eligible patient population to enable recruitment of trial subjects.*

****All organisations are commercial as defined by the NIHR and as such are fully costed and funded from those commercial organisations. A breakdown of Form, Size and Sector is not recorded as part of the process.*

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