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Darlington Memorial Hospital
Hollyhurst Road
Darlington
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Foundation Trust Office: 01325 74 3625
Corporate Records Office: 01325 74 3700

Request for Information Reference: 02.19.53

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

Email only

6 March 2019

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information received on 22 February 2019 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 shortage of medicines. Specifically you requested information as follows:

1) *The total number of medicines that your trust considered to be facing a shortage throughout:*

- a. 2016/17**
- b. 2017/18**
- c. 2018/19 to date**

2) *A list of the medicines your trust considered to be in short supply for each year:*

- a. 2016/17**
- b. 2017/18**
- c. 2018/19 to date**

3) *The total amount of money your trust spent in response to these medicines shortages to find and procure alternative medicines – including the cost of "off-contract claims" from suppliers against NHS England/CMU contracts – in:*

- a. 2016/17**
- b. 2017/18**
- c. 2018/19 to date**

4) A breakdown of what this cost includes, if it includes costs other than that of finding and procuring alternative medicines, for each year listed above.

County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust replies:

The Trust does not have a central record of this information. The Trust has also confirmed with the Commercial Medicines Unit at the Department of Health that they do not collate this information centrally.

Therefore, we are refusing this section of your request for information pursuant to section 12 of the Act on the grounds that we estimate that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit. The appropriate limit at the present time is £450.00 which equates to eighteen and quarter hours of work by a member of staff at the rate of £25 per hour.

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