

Executive Corridor
 Darlington Memorial Hospital
 Hollyhurst Road
 Darlington
 DL3 6HX
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 Foundation Trust Office: 01325 74 3625
 Corporate Records Office: 01325 74 3700

Request for Information Reference: 08.19.27

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

Email only

12 September 2019

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information received on 9 August 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 discharge summaries. Specifically you requested information as follows:

***The first covering the time period 1st January 2015 – 31st December 2015;
 The second covering the time period 1st January 2016 – 31st December 2016;
 The third covering the time period 1st January 2017 – 31st December 2017;
 and the fourth covering the time period 1st January 2018 – 31st December 2018.***

- 1. For each time period, how many discharge summaries were sent to GP practices after 24 hours of a discharge of a patient? i.e. how many discharge summaries were delayed in sending to GPs? This counts for outpatient, inpatient, day case and A&E care.***

Answer: Electronic discharge letters (not including outpatients and A&E activity)

Year	<24hrs	>24hrs
2015	123091	18655
2016	132838	9239
2017	114812	8878
2018	108494	9724

2. For each time period, how many discharge summaries included planned and requested actions for GPs?

Answer: Please note the information requested is not centrally recorded, there is not a field that is auditable and it would take a member of staff days to carry out a manual examination of patient records in order to gather this information, 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 hours of work by a member of staff at the rate of £25 per hour.

3. How many consultant to consultant (C2C) referrals were made in each time period?

Year	Consultant referrals
2015	16244
2016	16574
2017	23503
2018	25132

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