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Request for Information Reference: 06.20.28

Email: cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net

Email only

4 August 2020

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 16 June 2020 in relation to County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (the Trust). Your request has been processed under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and I am now able to provide you with a response.

Your request was in relation to Covid-19 outbreaks and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

1) How many covid-19 outbreaks have there been in care homes in your region between March 1st and June 16th 2020?

The Trust does not record this information. Care Home services are provided by the local authority.

2) How many care homes did you provide oxygen to as a result of covid-19 outbreaks between:
a) March 1st to April 15th
b) April 15th to June 16th

Provision of oxygen is not centrally recorded by the Trust and as such we are unable to provide this information. In order to determine which patients had oxygen provided, the records of all care home patients visited, reviewed or discharged at this time would need to be checked. This would not be possible in the time allowed to respond to freedom of information requests under the Act. 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 hospital patients were discharged to care homes between:
a) March 1st to April 15th: 98
b) April 15th to June 16th: 212

Please note that this response and subsequent answers to questions 4 and 5 part b) covers April 16th to June 16th to avoid double-counting for the date of April 15th.

4) How many hospital patients discharged to care homes were tested for covid-19? Please give totals for:

- a) March 1st to April 15th: 50
- b) April 15th to June 16th: 209

5) How many of the test results in Q4 were:

- a) Positive: 41
- b) Negative: 168
- c) Inconclusive/ void: 0

6) How many of the hospital patients discharged to care homes who tested positive for covid-19 were asymptomatic?

To provide this information it would require one member of staff to manually examine the records of all cases. 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.

7) How many covid-19 related ambulance call-out requests did you receive from care homes between:

- a) March 1st to April 15th
- b) April 15th to June 16th

The Trust does not record this information. Ambulance services in our region are provided by the North East Ambulance Service (NEAS) who should be the first point of contact for this information. If you wish to contact NEAS, we would advise, in accordance with Section 16 of the Act (duty to provide advice and assistance), that you contact that organisation via the following email address:

<https://www.neas.nhs.uk/contact-us/foi-requests.aspx>

8) How many of the call-out requests referred to in Q6 did you send an ambulance to between:

- a) March 1st to April 15th
- b) April 15th to June 16th

Again, the Trust does not record this information. Ambulance services in our region are provided by the North East Ambulance Service (NEAS) who should be the first point of contact for this information. If you wish to contact NEAS, we would advise, in accordance with Section 16 of the Act (duty to provide advice and assistance), that you contact that organisation via the following email address:

<https://www.neas.nhs.uk/contact-us/foi-requests.aspx>

- 9) How many care home residents did you admit to hospital between March 1st to June 16th? Please give totals for:**
- a) Those with suspected or confirmed covid-19**
 - b) Non-covid-19 related patients**

There were a total of 561 admissions from a care home postcode within this time frame. 124 patients were flagged as positive for covid-19 with the other 437 being non-covid related patients.

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 on the Trust's website. However please be assured that we anonymise all responses prior to adding them to the disclosure log.

I hope that this response has provided you with the information you had requested. If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone or in writing. If however, you are dissatisfied with the way in which your request has been handled and would like an internal review, you will need to contact me in writing at the above address or via cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.

If you remain dissatisfied with our response following an internal review you have the right to appeal to The Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. More information is available on their website; www.ico.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

Joanna Tyrrell
Freedom of Information Officer