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Request for Information Reference: 07.20.14

Email: [cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net](mailto:cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net)

Email only

31 July 2020

## Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 13 July 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 sustainability and sustainable development and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

- 1. Could you please confirm whether your organisation has a sustainability or sustainable development strategy?**
  - a. If possible, please provide a copy.**

At this time the Trust does not have a strategy but is in the development process and a Sustainable Development Steering Group was convened in late 2019 to lead this work.

- 2. If you answered yes to the first question can you confirm:**
  - a. Whether there is a strategy group or work/action plan in place to support this strategy?**
  - b. When the strategy was first developed within the organisation (year).**

Not applicable, please see the response to question 1

- 3. Is there an identified Executive Sponsor for sustainability within the organisation?**

Sue Jacques, Chief Executive, is the Executive sponsor.

- 4. Are any members of staff dedicated to sustainability or sustainable development within the organisation? If so, how many hours per week are**

**dedicated to this area of work, what is their job title and what Agenda for Change pay band are they?**

There are no staff with a job role dedicated to sustainability or sustainable development. There is a Waste Manager and Energy Manager in post, employed via QE Facilities, a wholly owned subsidiary company of Gateshead Health NHS Foundation Trust. The remit of this and other roles such as those in procurement does include some sustainability elements but is not their sole focus.

**5. Does your organisation have any environmental champions? If so, how many?**

Not at present

**6. Do you offer any sustainability training for your staff? If so, what format is this delivered in (e.g. face to face, e-learning, etc)?**

Not at present

**7. Is your organisation 'paperless'?**

**a. For NHS Trusts and CCGs providing clinical services (such as Continuing Health Care), if not, what year do you anticipate fulfilling the NHS target to fully digitise clinical records?**

The Trust is not currently paperless. While the Trust has a digitised patient record already, the intention is to minimise further the use of paper in the care delivery process through the implementation of the Electronic Patient Record by 2022.

**8. Have you engaged with the NHS Sustainable Development Unit over the past five years? If so, could you provide the names of the project titles that you worked with them on?**

The Trust has not engaged directly with the unit, however some of the Unit's literature and case studies have been utilised to support Trust initiatives.

**9. Does your organisation assess its impact on the environment when making decisions through use of a sustainability framework or another similar tool?**

The Trust does not as yet use a sustainability framework in decision making although sustainability is considered in procurement decisions and the trust has a Sustainable Procurement Policy.

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](mailto: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](http://www.ico.gov.uk).

Yours sincerely

**Joanna Tyrrell**  
**Freedom of Information Officer**