

Executive Corridor
Darlington Memorial Hospital
Hollyhurst Road
Darlington
DL3 6HX
Switchboard Tel: 01325 38 0100
Foundation Trust Office: 01325 74 3625
Corporate Records Office: 01325 74 3700

Request for Information Reference: 09.20.22

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

Email only

9 October 2020

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 16 September 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 Hydrotherapy Provision and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

1. On behalf of which Trust are you responding?

County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust

2. Does your Trust have an on-site hydrotherapy pool?

Yes, the Trust has 2 hydrotherapy pools.

3. Does your Trust have access to an offsite hydrotherapy pool?

No, the Trust does not have access to an offsite hydrotherapy pool.

4. Was the hydrotherapy pool open prior to the COVID-19 pandemic?

One of the pools was open, the other pool was awaiting repair.

5. Will the hydrotherapy pool be re-opening?

- Yes, it is already open
- Yes, there are plans to reopen
- No
- Not sure/ don't know

6. When is the pool scheduled to re-open?

Work is ongoing with the Infection Prevention Control Team to be able to re-open the pool, however at this time there is not a designated re-open date.

7. Why is that? (Please select all that apply)

- ✓ Changing area capacity
- ✓ Staffing to clean
- ✓ Access to pool
- ✓ Staff still redeployed
- ✓ Other

8. Is /will your service capacity be reduced as a result of COVID-19?

The service will be in line with social distancing and cleaning procedures which are required.

9. What capacity will you be able to offer? Please enter a percentage (%).

This information is currently unknown at the present time.

10. Why is that? (Please select all that apply)

- Cost of running
- ✓ Changing area capacity
- ✓ Staffing to clean
- ✓ Access to pool
- ✓ Staff still redeployed
- Other

11. What are the reasons that you don't have access to a hydrotherapy pool? (Please select all that apply)

- Lack of appropriate local patient population
- Lack of funds
- Insufficient space
- No local pool available
- Not enough adequately trained staff
- Other (please specify)

N/A.

12. Approximately how many people with any condition used the pool on a weekly basis?

35 patients per day/ 140 patients per week used the pool.

13. Which condition areas use the hydrotherapy pool?

- ✓ Rheumatology / MSK
- ✓ Neurology
- ✓ Physical disability
- ✓ Children
- ✓ Other (please specify) - Pain Management

14. What percentage of users were/ are people with axial spondyloarthritis (axial SpA) including ankylosing spondylitis (AS)? We understand you may not record this level of detail so please do give your best estimate.

50% of users are patients with axial spondyloarthritis (axial SpA) including ankylosing spondylitis (AS).

15. Do you currently audit the use and effectiveness of hydrotherapy?

- Yes
- ✓ No
- Not sure / don't know

16. Please list outcome measures or tools used to audit the use and effectiveness of hydrotherapy?

N/A patient specific.

17. If you are happy to be contacted by NASS on behalf of the APPG to discuss your responses please let us know your name, position and email address?

N/A.

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