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Request for Information Reference: 07.20.29

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

Email only

20 October 2020

### **Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information**

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 20 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.

Firstly please accept my apologies for the time taken to respond. Your request was in relation to practitioner groups and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

**The non-medical practitioner workforce is an increasingly important part of the modern surgical team and the Surgical Colleges are now delivering educational and training opportunities in recognition of this, and also want to ensure they practice to the highest standards of patient care. As there is no register specific to these advanced practitioner groups, it is difficult to ascertain important information pertaining to this workforce.**

**We would be most grateful if you could provide the following information on the perioperative practitioner groups within your Trust.**

Please see the attached spreadsheet. Also some further information is as follows:

HCPC Surgical Care Practitioner, Orthopaedic, Full Time (FT)

HCPC Surgical assistant, Orthopaedic, FT

HCPC Surgical assistant, Orthopaedic, FT

HCPC Surgical assistant, Orthopaedic, FT  
NMC Surgical assistant, Plastics, FT

NMC Surgical assistant, Gynaecology, Part Time (PT)

NMC Advanced clinical nurse practitioner Bariatric, FT

Please note, with regards to questions 8, 9 and 10 the Trust does not have a separate budget code for CPD. All training budgets and spend are combined regardless of the reason for the training request. The Trust also has separate conference/seminar codes that again can be used for any requests of that nature, not just CPD reasons. The Trust estimates that it would take a member of staff a significant amount of time to gather this information. The Trust is therefore 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.

Please note, with regards to question 16 the Trust is unable to provide a breakdown with regards to the number of procedures where each role type was required as this information is not centrally recorded. The specific job role/ identity of the role is not always noted and it would take a member of staff a substantial amount of time to manually examine all the sets of patient notes. The Trust is therefore 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.

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 am sorry that I have not been able to provide all of the information you requested, however I hope that my explanation as to why this is not possible has been satisfactory. 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**