

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: 08.21.45

FOI Direct line: 01325 743700  
Email: [cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net](mailto:cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net)

Email only

18<sup>th</sup> October 2021

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

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2021 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 Payments to External Suppliers and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

**I am requesting information on all payments to external suppliers for purchases of goods and services between 2019-01-01 and 2020-12-31.**

**What is requested is a list of these payments, ideally in Microsoft Excel format, which contains as much of the following information for each payment as possible.**

- 1. Supplier name?**
- 2. Amount paid, excluding VAT?**
- 3. Payment date (or some other relevant transaction date)?**
- 4. A unique invoice-id or a transaction-id number for each payment?**
- 5. Some description of the nature of the expense?**

Please see the attached excel spreadsheet as requested and please note with respect to questions 5. The Trust do not centrally record the invoice description. Due to the way in which invoices are raised and recorded the summary of the nature of the expense does not pull through into an invoice description field. In order to provide this level of detail each invoice on the spreadsheet would need to be reviewed in order to provide a summary of the reason for the payment. As such the Trust is unable to provide the information in the way you have requested it and 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 and quarter hours of work by a member of staff at the rate of £25 per hour.

If however, once you have reviewed the suppliers and the payments made, you would like summaries of specific invoices or suppliers we would advise you to submit a further FOI request and we would work with you to be able to provide what was possible based on the timescales given in the FOIA.

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. 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

**Corporate Records and Freedom of Information Facilitator**