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Request for Information Reference: 09.21.46

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

Email only

18th October 2021

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 23rd September 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 Disability Equipment and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

I would be grateful if you could provide information to us on all the geographical areas that you cover, for the following two periods:

- 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020.
 - 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021.
1. **The value* of community disability equipment** provided by your organisation (we require information from each organisation separately, if you wish to provide joint spending figures – please let us know) to disabled and terminally ill children (as defined by the 2010 Equality Act please see *** below) in your area.**
 2. **The numbers of individual pieces of equipment supplied to disabled and terminally ill children in your area.**

The wheelchair service has been using SystemOne since approximately May 2018. This system does not enable us to pull reports for caseloads based upon age (child or adult). It also does not enable us to pull reports related to the current equipment on issue at any given time or the value of the equipment on issue. The only way of extracting the information requested would be to manually go into each patient's record individually.

We are unable to give an exact total number of current CDDFT Wheelchair Service users, as the system does not enable us to do this either and the number fluctuates daily (with new referrals being received and patients discharged). Based upon almost

14,000 users (a figure generated by a previous NHS England report) an estimation of the time required to go into each individual record to retrieve the required information and then collate this would be significantly higher than the appropriate limit under the FOI 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.

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

Corporate Records and Freedom of Information Facilitator