

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: 08.22.18

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

Email only

25th August 2022

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 5th August 2022 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 Asylum seeking women and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

The below answers cover the time period from July 2021 to June 2022.

1. What is the number of asylum seeking and/or undocumented migrant women who had a miscarriage while in the care of your trust in the latest one year period you have data for?

The Trust does not centrally record this information and estimates that it would take a significant amount of time to gather the information requested. In order to gather this information it would require a member of staff to manually examine the sets of patient's notes to see if each patient who miscarried had their migrant status recorded. 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.

2. What is the overall number of women who had a miscarriage while in care of your trust during the same period?

359

3. What is the total number of pregnant women you cared for during the same period?

4,379 deliveries and 5,465 booked pregnancies

4. What is the number of asylum seeking and/or undocumented migrant women who had a stillbirth while in the care of your trust in the latest one year period you have data available for?

The Trust does not centrally record this information and estimates that it would take a significant amount of time to gather the information requested. In order to gather this information it would require a member of staff to manually examine the sets of patient's notes to see if each patient who had a stillbirth had their migrant status recorded. 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.

5. What is the overall number of women who had a stillbirth while in care of your trust during the same period?

17

6. What is the total number of pregnant women you cared for during the same period?

4,379 deliveries and 5,465 booked pregnancies

Also:

7. Are you using private debt firms to recover treatment costs from overseas patients ineligible for free NHS treatment?

The Trust use a debt collection agency to recover outstanding debts.

8. In the latest year you have data available for, how much money did you recover from ineligible patients, and how much was the total debt?

Recovered - £30,245.78

Total Debt - £94,550.69

9. In the latest year you have data available for, how much money did you spend on fees for private debt firms to help recover payment from patient's ineligible for free NHS treatment?

The Trust paid £621.84 to the debt collection agency.

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