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Request for Information Reference: 08.22.24

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

Email only

31st August 2022

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 10th 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 Epilepsy and Neuroimaging technologies and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

Please see attached the spreadsheet you required to be completed.

As indicated on the spreadsheet in our answer to question 4, The Trust does not centrally record what the patient was being treated for when prescribed each drug. Collecting this data would require a member of staff to review individual prescriptions of over a thousand patients to determine the number of AEDs prescribed.

The Trust also cannot provide an answer for question 5, as we do not centrally record the average wait time from initial appointment to epilepsy diagnosis 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 determine the amount of time between initial appointment and epilepsy diagnosis.

Therefore, we are refusing these questions 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