

Information Governance

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Ref: FOI2019/5168

Date Received: 24th January 2019

Response Due: 21st February 2019

20th February 2019

Dear

INFORMATION REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

We are now pleased to respond to your request for information under the FOI Act.

You asked:

I am currently asking all Health Trusts in the UK which offer sleep services to respond to these questions, as part of a Freedom of Information request.

- 1. How many patients do you currently have who have been diagnosed with sleep apnoea**
- 2. How many of those currently use CPAP compared with 2013 and 2008**
- 3. How many patients were diagnosed five years ago (i.e., on your books)**
- 4. How many patients 10 years ago.(if appropriate)**

Refusal Notice for Question 1- 4 – Unable to respond to these questions due to the amount of time it would take to go through each individual file to obtain the information required.

The information that you have requested is exempt under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act because it will take more than 18 hours to retrieve and extract the relevant information.

12. — (1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

Regulation 4(3) of the Fees Regulations states that a public authority can only take into account the costs it reasonably expects to incur in carrying out the following permitted activities in complying with the request:

- ☐ determining whether the information is held;
- ☐ locating the information, or a document containing it;
- ☐ retrieving the information, or a document containing it; and
- ☐ extracting the information from a document containing it.

All public authorities should calculate the time spent on the permitted activities at the flat rate of £25 per person, per hour.

This means that the appropriate limit will be exceeded if it would require more than 18 hours work for all public authorities.

5. How much is the cost per patient to the Trust?

Approx. £700 per patient

6. If this cannot be broken down then total cost per year.

I trust that this information is helpful to you, however if you are not entirely satisfied with this response please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department on 01257 488271. If we do not hear from you within 28 days we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,



Andrew Foster
Chief Executive

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If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Wrightington Hospital, Hall Lane, Appley Bridge, Wigan, WN6 9EP

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF