

Information Governance

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Ref: FOI2018/4506

Date Received: 26th February 2018
Response Due: 26th March 2018

26th March 2018

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

1. How much your trust spent on paracetamol each year for the past five years, e.g. 2017/18 (if possible), 2016/17, 2015/16, 2014/15 and 2013/14
2. How much your trust spent on ibuprofen each year in the past five years, e.g. 2017/18 (if possible), 2016/17, 2015/16, 2014/15 and 2013/14
3. How much your trust spent on aspirin each year in the past five years, e.g. 2017/18 (if possible), 2016/17, 2015/16, 2014/15 and 2013/14

In response to questions 1 to 3 please see the information in the table below:

All forms tab/cap/susp/inf etc	Yr	
	16/17	17/18
Ibuprofen	£3,861.81	£4,872.87
Aspirin	£2,304.01	£1,748.19
Paracetamol	£40,238.99	£40,858.42

Data from 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16 was held on a system that is no longer in use, and it would exceed the appropriate time limit to extract.

Please see refusal notice below.

Refusal Notice for Questions 1 to 3 - 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.

4. How much of each drug was bought, e.g. how many boxes, tablets etc.

[Please see refusal notice below.](#)

Refusal Notice Section 43 for questions 4

Commercially sensitive information relating to the value has not been disclosed here as we consider that Section 43 (2) 'prejudice to the commercial interests of any party' of the FOI act is engaged. Disclosure of this information could be commercially detrimental to the Trust and companies acting on our behalf and result in less competitive prices for services. The likely consequence of this would be increased cost for service provision to the Trust. We have considered how the public interest might apply, and although recognising that there is a strong public interest in openness, there is a greater public interest in ensuring an ability to obtain best value for money

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

PLEASE NOTE:

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purposes of news reporting. Any other reuse, for example commercial publication, would require the permission of the copyright holder. You must ensure you gain their permission before reproducing any third party information.

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