

Information Governance Department  
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Ref: FOI/2023/9238

Date Received: 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023

Response Due: 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Date:

Dear Sir/Madam

You asked:

- 1. The number of non-NHS ambulances that are utilised by you organisation on a daily basis for discharges and transfers?**

Please see exemption below.

- 2. How many discharges do you undertake outside "normal" working hours (08:00-18:00) on a daily basis?**

Please see exemption below.

- 3. What is the monthly cost spent on non-NHS patient transport for the financial year 2022-23?**

	<b>Spend on Non-NHS patient transport</b>
<b>April 22</b>	£30,000
<b>May 22</b>	£47,293
<b>June 22</b>	£35,000
<b>July 22</b>	£9,485
<b>Aug 22</b>	£14,026
<b>Sept 22</b>	£10,000
<b>Oct 22</b>	£20,053
<b>Nov 22</b>	£19,214
<b>Dec 22</b>	£22,163
<b>Jan 23</b>	£40,414
<b>Feb 23</b>	£35,000

March 23	£4,383
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The Trust is unable to provide this data as it is not recorded centrally. To obtain the number of non-NHS ambulances and discharges outside "normal" working hours would include collecting all invoices and investigating to patient logs to determine how many non-NHS ambulances were used each day and what times.

**Refusal Notice for question(s)** - 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.

If you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department via the email address provided. If we do not hear from you within 40 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,



Tabitha Gardner  
Chief Finance Officer

PLEASE NOTE:

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, Suite 9, Buckingham Row, Brick Kiln Lane, Wigan, WN1 1XX.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at:

The Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Helpline number: 0303 123 111