

Our Ref: NG/RM/24301
Date: 20th September 2024

Nicola Griffiths
Deputy Director of Governance
North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust
Lawton House
Bellringer Road
Trentham
ST4 8HH

Reception: 0300 123 1535

Dear

Freedom of Information Act Request

I am writing in response to your e-mail of the 22nd August 2024. Your request has been processed using the Trust's procedures for the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

Requested information:

This is an information request relating to Complementary and alternative medicines offered in NHS Trusts

Please include the following information:

- Total number of patients that have received treatment that falls under this category
- What existing problem did they have in order to qualify for this treatment
- The specific treatment they received. (e.g. acupuncture, chiropractic, herbal medicines, homoeopathy)
- The cost of each treatment for each patient.
- The definition of complementary and alternative medicines is here: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/complementary-and-alternative-medicine/#:~:text=Complementary%20and%20alternative%20medicine%20>

The Trust does hold this information but not a reportable format, to supply this information would require a manual trawl of patients records. We believe that the cost of collating the information in order to respond to your request would exceed the threshold of £450 as defined by the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate limit Fees) Regulations 2004. As a result, we are refusing your request under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information 2000.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review of the management of your request. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Dr Buki Adeyemo, Chief Executive, North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare Trust, Trust Headquarters, Lawton House, Bellringer Road, Trentham, ST4 8HH. If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely



Nicola Griffiths
Deputy Director of Governance