

Our Ref: LW/lmw/FOI.126.23
Date: 2nd May 2023

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

Tel 01782 275030

Dear

Freedom of Information Act Request

I am writing in response to your e-mail of the 24th April 2023. Your request has been processed using the Trust's procedures for the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

Requested information:

Thank you for your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 dated 27 April 2023 asking for the following information:

- 1 - The average weekly cost of the child's placement to the NHS since she was admitted to NHS facilities.
- 2- The highest weekly cost of the child's placement to the NHS since she was admitted to NHS facilities.
- 2 - The total cost of the child's placements to the NHS since she was admitted to NHS facilities.

The Trust has considered the request and considered if exemptions under the Act apply.

The Trust believes that an exemption under Section 40(2) applies as your request relates to personally identifiable information where the applicant is a third party. Section 40 is an absolute exemption.

Also the Trust considers that an exemption under Section 43(2) applies as release of this information, even at an average level, would prejudice the ability of the Trust to negotiate with suppliers to supply agency staffing. In considering this the Trust has applied a prejudice test and also a public interest test and believes that, on balance, that the public interest is best served in maintaining the exemption.

The Trust recognises its duty to assist under Section 16 and would be willing to provide the average cost of care for patient care within our facilities should this be helpful, but not where this would provide the ability to identify specific patients. Please let us know if you wish to receive this information.

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



Laurie Wrench
Deputy Director of Governance



Chairman: David Rogers
Chief Executive: Dr Buki Adeyemo
www.combined.nhs.uk

Follow us on Twitter: @CombinedNHS
Follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/NorthStaffsCombined

