

Date: Wednesday, 21st August 2019
Our Ref: MB/KF FOI 3984

Sid Watkins Building
Lower Lane
Fazakerley
Liverpool L9 7BB
Tel: 01515253611
Fax: 01515295500
Direct Line: 01515563037

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI 3984

We are writing in response to your request submitted under the Freedom of Information Act, received in this office on 07th August 2019.

Your request was as follows:

1) Please state the name of your Trust?

[The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust \(WCFT\)](#)

2) How many patients currently under your care are being kept alive with clinically assisted nutrition and hydration (CANH) who are in a persistent vegetative state or minimally conscious state?

[We have 2 patients who are currently receiving CANH and are undergoing formal assessments on the PDOC pathway](#)

3a) How many patients from Q2 have been kept alive for 1 year or more?

[These patients have are both 3 months post injury or less.](#)

b) How many patients from Q2 have been kept alive for 3 years or more?

[Please see answer to Q3a](#)

c) How many patients from Q2 have been kept alive for 5 years or more?

[Please see answer to Q3a](#)

4a) How much money has your trust spend on the patients from Q2 in the years;

2015 - 2016

I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) that we do not collate information regarding the amount spent per individual patient, we also do not keep a record of how much product each individual patient uses therefore we are unable to provide this information. Under the FOI Act, we are not required to create this information in order to answer your request. I should explain that the FOI Act is to do with transparency of information held by public authorities. It gives an individual the right to access recorded information held by public authorities. The FOI Act does not require public authorities to generate information, or to answer questions, provide explanations or give opinions, unless this is recorded information that they already hold.

2016 - 2017

Please see response to Q4a

2017 - 2018

Please see response to Q4a

b) How much money does your Trust spend per patient (from Q2) on average?

Please see response to Q4a

5) How many next of kin of patients from Q2 have asked for the CANH to be stopped and their loved ones be moved into palliative care?

0

b) What has been the financial cost of these legal battles/mediations?

0

6a) In how many patients cases, have you been in a legal battle, whether mediation or court, because next of kin wanted to stop CANH in the last 5 years?

There has been 1 legal case in the last 5 years.

b) What has been the financial cost of these legal battles/mediations?

The cost of the legal case was £48,667

Please see our response above in [blue](#).

Re-Use of Public Sector Information

All information supplied by the Trust in answering a request for information (RFI) under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 will be subject to the terms of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005, Statutory Instrument 2005 No. 1515 which came into effect on 1st July 2005.

Under the terms of the Regulations, the Trust will licence the re-use of any or all information supplied if being used in a form and for the purpose other than which it was originally supplied. This license for re-use will be in line with the requirements of the Regulations and the licensing terms and fees as laid down by the Office of Public Sector Information (OPSI). Most licenses will be free; however the Trust reserves the right, in certain circumstances, to charge a fee for the re-use of some information which it deems to be of commercial value.

Further information can be found at www.opsi.gov.uk where a sample license terms and fees can be found with guidance on copyright and publishing notes and a Guide to Best Practice and regulated advice and case studies, at www.opsi.gov.uk/advice/psi-regulations/index.htm

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. 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 the Freedom of Information Office at the address above.

Please remember to quote the reference number, FOI 3984 in any future communications.

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 Commissioners Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

Mike Burns

Mr. Mike Burns, Executive Lead for Freedom of Information