

Date: 1 August 2018

Re: Freedom of Information Request
Ref: 145-2018

Thank you for your email dated 8th July 2018, requesting information regarding Trust finance.

The information that you require is as follows:

Under the Freedom of Information Act, may I please request the following information for the last five years (2016/17, 2015/16, 2014/15, 2013/14, 2012/13) for each of the following:

1) Level of deficit at year end

Please see Appendix 1

2) External consultancy services spend

Please see Appendix 1

3) Breakdown of consultancy spend by all sectors e.g. health management consultancy, digital health consultancy, environment consultancy etc.

Following a scoping exercise completed by our Finance Department it has become evident that in order to meet the full requirements of question 3, there would be a significant impact on both time and workload within the Trust. As the information requested is not all held centrally, in order to collate this information would require us to recall some of the information from storage. It would also involve having a staff member manually review a large number of individual invoices from the last five financial years, and extract the requested information. It has been estimated that this would take in excess of 30 hours.

Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the 'appropriate limit', which for local authorities is £450, or 18 hours (at £25 per hour). This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 2.5 working days locating the documents that contain the information and extracting the relevant information containing it. This would take considerable time and cost which we estimate will exceed the "appropriate limit".

If you narrow the scope of your request, we may be able to provide the information free of charge because it would cost less than the appropriate limit to do so. Any reformulated request the department receives from you will be treated as a fresh FOI request.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me on the email address provided below.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for this to be investigated internally.

If you are dissatisfied with the information you have received, you have the right to ask for an internal review.

Both processes will be handled in accordance with our Trust's Freedom of Information Policy and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Internal investigation and 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: Freedom of Information Review, The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust, Clatterbridge Road, Bebington, Wirral, CH63 4JY

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of the internal investigation/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.

In order for us to ensure customer satisfaction and to monitor compliance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we would be grateful if you could take a couple of minutes to complete a short feedback form via the link below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/H39RFMM>

Appendix 1

	Q1)	Q2)
	Level of Deficit@ Y/E	External Consultancy Services Spend
		£'000
2016/17	None - Surplus Reported	762
2015/16	None - Surplus Reported	1,120
2014/15	None - Surplus Reported	554
2013/14	None - Surplus Reported	683
2012/13	None - Surplus Reported	147