

Freedom of Information Request - FOI2024/077

28 May 2024

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request.

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to ask that you answer the following questions that relate to spending on absorbent continence products within your NHS Trust in the last 5 years.

For context, the information requested relates to the NHS Bladder and Bowel or Continence Services, which provide absorbent continence pads to adult community patients. The individual trust data is requested.

- 1) In your Trust is there a “cap/limit” on the number of absorbent continence pads provided per patient in each 24-hour period, if so, what is the number?
- 2) How much has your Trust actually spent on absorbent continence products during each of the last 5 financial years, and what is the annual budget for absorbent continence products during each of those years? Please give a figure for each year 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23.
- 3) What is the total annual number of patients in receipt of absorbent continence products in your trust? Please give a figure for each year 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23.

I have considered your request and have set out the Trust’s response below:

1) Adults 3 per 24hrs – Maximum of 4 per 24 Hrs, 4 per 24hrs – Maximum of 5 per 24 Hours

2)

2018/19 - Not Held – Supply Chain doesn’t go this far back

2019/20 - Not Held – Supply Chain doesn’t go this far back

2020/21 - £51024.13

2021/22 - £69945.70

2022/23 - £89755.68

Our current budget is £30,5736.00. We do not have the previous years’ budgets.

3) The information that you have requested is not held in a form that would enable it to be located, retrieved and extracted within the appropriate time limit that equates to 18 hours as defined by the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limits and Fees) Regulations 2004.

We don’t hold this in a central point for past years, so would involve us searching older records.

We do hold the current figure, which is 1009 adults and 81 paediatric patients receiving these products. Based on this, we would say that it would be around 1000+ files a year that would need to be checked to find the older figures.

Based on 1000+ records needing to be searched, and the search taking approximately 10mins per record, this would take approximately 167 hours to complete on years' worth. Where the appropriate limit is exceeded the Trust is not required to supply the information as per Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Officer