

Response document – FOI request 4692

Request

This is a FOIA request. The Trust is required to provide information on losses and special payments in its annual report. I am writing to request additional, more detailed information regarding these losses and payments. I am making this request because I believe there is a clear and compelling public interest in understanding more about the types of losses and special payments the Trust makes.

1. Losses and special payments

Please provide a copy of your losses and special payments register or database for the year 2016-17. I would expect this information to include, but not necessarily be limited to:

- a) Category of loss or special payment (e.g. bad debt, fruitless payment, compensation payment made under legal obligation) as defined in relevant losses and special payments policy or procedure documents.
- b) A summary of the loss
- c) Amount paid out in £ Sterling (or other currency)

South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust has decided that the requested information is exempt under section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This is because the information is available on the South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust website under the annual report section.

d) Debtor name (where that debtor is a company or disclosure of a person's name is permitted by the data protection provisions of s.40)

We are not obliged, under section 40(2) of the Act, to provide information that is the personal information of another person if releasing would contravene any of the provisions in the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA). In this instance we believe that the release of this information would contravene the first data protection principle and therefore section 40 (2) is engaged. The terms of this exemption in the Freedom of Information Act mean that we do not have to consider whether or not it would be in the public interest for you to have the information.

2. Bad debts

- a) Please state how much bad debt was written off in the year 2016-17.
£16,438

b) If, and only if, you hold the information in an easily retrievable format, i.e. not in individual case files, please state how much of this bad debt was non-NHS and/or private patient debt write offs and/or overseas visitors related.

Debt is split into these categories:

Private Patient	£5,452
Oversea Visitors	£6,244
Non NHS Suppliers	£970
Individuals	£3,772