



Request under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Request Ref: NGFOI 16/17: 462

Thank you for your request for information received at Northampton General Hospital NHS Trust (NGH) on 05/12/16.

I am pleased that we are now able to provide you with a response to your request as shown below.

You requested:

1. *For the two past financial years (2015/16 and 2016/17 to date.), please provide the following data, breaking it down month by month:*
 - a. *The number of inpatient main meals requested in the Trust*
 - b. *The number of inpatient main meals left untouched*
 - c. *The total cost of providing inpatient main meals*
 - d. *The cost of feeding one inpatient per day*
2. *Please name the catering companies and food suppliers used by the Trust in 2014/15 and in 2015/16 to date*
3. *Please provide details of what changes, if any, the Trust has made or plans to make to inpatient catering and food procurement contracts with suppliers and/or catering companies in response to rising food commodity costs.*
4. *Please state:*
 - a. *Whether the Trust currently meets the following Government Buying Standards for food and catering services: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/418072/gbs-food-catering-march2015.pdf*
 - b. *Whether the Trust currently uses or has made plans to use the provisions in the Government Buying Standards that allow an authority to depart from mandated production and/or animal welfare standards to avoid a "significant increase in costs". If so, please set out the date this decision was taken and the details of what was decided.*

Response from Northampton General Hospital NHS Trust (NGH):

1. a. I can confirm on behalf of the Trust and in accordance with S.1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) that we do not hold the information in the format that you have requested. We can provide this by calendar year:

| | Meals Requested | | |
|----------|-----------------|-------|-------|
| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
| January | 37066 | 48073 | 39061 |
| February | 37454 | 38446 | 38998 |

| | | | |
|-----------|-------|-------|-------|
| March | 46918 | 37232 | 49513 |
| April | 34210 | 37959 | 38761 |
| May | 45425 | 48080 | 38610 |
| June | 37336 | 38461 | 47527 |
| July | 37088 | 37316 | 38147 |
| August | 45705 | 52162 | 37734 |
| September | 37794 | 37960 | 48230 |
| October | 37440 | 48318 | 38620 |
| November | 46099 | 38535 | |
| December | 37218 | 47433 | |

b. I can confirm on behalf of the Trust and in accordance with S.1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) that we do not record the information that you have requested. Our untouched plate wastage is around 12 to 15 meals per day, we only have data from the last 12 months as prior to this waste was measured in a total volume.

c. We are currently at a patient feeding cost of £2.55 per patient per day. This figure has risen by 5p in the time frame requested.

2. Supply Direct

3. The Trust continually reviews food prices with its suppliers. Menu adjustments sometimes have to be made to keep within budget, where it is not possible to maintain prices.

4. a and b. The Trust does meet the GBS standards and has for the last 2 years, been awarded the Food for Life bronze certification for our patient feeding operation.