

FOI 1777

27.07.2023

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST**

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**How much has it cost (in total) the Southern Health and Social Care Trust in transferring patients, who require emergency general surgery, from Daisy Hill Hospital to Craigavon and/or other hospitals since the beginning of February 2022. i.e. cost of ambulance staff, contracted and/or private.**

Response:

Unfortunately we are unable to provide the information you have requested as the cost of locating and retrieving the information exceeds the “appropriate limit” as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004. It has been estimated that it would take more than 18 hours to locate and retrieve the requested information. To obtain this information would exceed the £450 limit and is therefore cost prohibitive.

There is currently no method of extraction from the Trust’s electronic system by Trust staff and therefore a manual trawl of records of all patients on the Trust’s system would have to be undertaken.

In order to provide advice on how the request can be refined to provide some information, in respect of this question – would you either refine the request or we can provide an estimate of costs based on the minimum number of days contracted to engage private ambulance providers, however this would be an estimated cost.

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