

FOI 2285

9th April 2024

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST

- 1) The total £ amount spent on patient meals. I would like a figure for just the food / ingredients, without including staff costs or equipment.

Response:

The information held by the Trust Procurement system is not split between food produced for patients and staff across all of our Trust hospitals, therefore table below reflects costs of the procurement of food ingredients for the provision of meals served on hospital sites for both patient and staff.

Year	Site	Cost
2019/2020	Craigavon Area Hospital	£1,027,714.74
	Bluestone Unit	£337,455.75
	Daisy Hill Hospital	£491,516.50
	Lurgan Hospital	£133,179.63
	South Tyrone Hospital	£151,868.39
	Total	£2,141,735.00
2020/2021	Craigavon Area Hospital	£972,010.87
	Bluestone Unit	£321,023.12
	Daisy Hill Hospital	£468,347.83
	Lurgan Hospital	£109,830.25
	South Tyrone Hospital	£120,508.40
	Total	£1,991,720.46
2021/2022	Craigavon Area Hospital	£903,735.14
	Bluestone Unit	£471,406.24
	Daisy Hill Hospital	£471,582.07
	Lurgan Hospital	£138,448.52
	South Tyrone Hospital	£146,132.98
	Total	£2,131,304.95
2022/2023	Craigavon Area Hospital	£1,163,246.76

	Bluestone Unit	£468,429.25
	Daisy Hill Hospital	£599,398.71
	Lurgan Hospital	£171,429.29
	South Tyrone Hospital	£181,549.39
	Total	£2,584,053.41
2023/2024 (up to Feb 2024)	Craigavon Area Hospital	£1,359,589.95
	Bluestone Unit	£349,011.30
	Daisy Hill Hospital	£633,728.24
	Lurgan Hospital	£179,888.04
	South Tyrone Hospital	£201,249.04
	Total	£2,723,466.57

2) The total number of meals served to patients (including breakfast if possible)

Response:

The figures below relate to lunch and dinner meals served to patients on hospital sites. The information on breakfast is not available as there are different service models in operation.

Year	Site	No. of Patient Meals (Lunch & Dinner)
2019/2020	Craigavon Area Hospital	295,425
	Daisy Hill Hospital	148,201
	Lurgan Hospital	51,203
	South Tyrone Hospital	27,003
	Bluestone Unit	64,623
	Total	586,455
2020/2021	Craigavon Area Hospital	280,251
	Daisy Hill Hospital	112,831
	Lurgan Hospital	40,808
	South Tyrone Hospital	15,243
	Bluestone Unit	61,107
	Total	510,240
2021/2022	Craigavon Area Hospital	322,084
	Daisy Hill Hospital	134,245
	Lurgan Hospital	52,404
	South Tyrone Hospital	28,353
	Bluestone Unit	63,544
	Total	600,630
2022/2023	Craigavon Area Hospital	360,291
	Daisy Hill Hospital	142,649
	Lurgan Hospital	54,373

	South Tyrone Hospital	31,300
	Bluestone Unit	63,778
	Total	652,391
2023/2024 (up to Feb 2024)	Craigavon Area Hospital	348,592
	Daisy Hill Hospital	131,244
	Lurgan Hospital	40,912
	South Tyrone Hospital	26,933
	Bluestone Unit	62,463
	Total	610,144

- 3) The average daily cost of meals per patient in £. I.e. how much does it cost to feed one patient for a day, taking just the food / ingredients costs into account, so again not including staff costs or equipment. Provide this as an average over the year, along with a note on the method used to work this out if possible.**

Response:

The Trust can provide the average daily cost of a lunch and evening meal. The table below displays this information for Craigavon and Daisy Hill Hospitals. These figures only include food costs and do not take account of for example the cost of preparing/ transportation/ equipment/ staffing or any other associated costs such as disposables and consumables. Breakfasts and snacks are not included.

The same information for Bluestone Unit, South Tyrone and Lurgan Hospitals is not held on the catering system. This information is not centrally collated and we consider that the cost of retrieving the information would be above the 'appropriate limit' as defined by the FOI Act under Section 12. Section 12 makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit. The limit has been specified as £450 for public authorities such as the Southern Trust. This represents the cost of one or more person spending 18 hours or more in determining whether we hold the information locating retrieving and extracting the information.

Year	Site	Average daily cost of Lunch & Dinner (£)
2019/2020	Craigavon Area Hospital	2.55
	Daisy Hill Hospital	2.37
2020/2021	Craigavon Area Hospital	1.95
	Daisy Hill Hospital	2.30
2021/2022	Craigavon Area Hospital	2.21
	Daisy Hill Hospital	2.53
2022/2023	Craigavon Area Hospital	2.63
	Daisy Hill Hospital	2.70

2023/2024 (up to Feb 2024)	Craigavon Area Hospital	3.21
	Daisy Hill Hospital	2.85

4) The average number of patients you fed per day over the year (i.e. on any given day we fed an average of 100 patients)

Response:

This information is not held. Catering Services only collate the numbers of meals distributed to the wards. The information on the catering system regarding meals is not recorded against individual patients. Menu ordering is paper based. To collate the average number of patients served would exceed the 18 hour limit. This information is not centrally collated and we consider that the cost of retrieving the information would be above the 'appropriate limit' as defined by the FOI Act under Section 12. Section 12 makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit. The limit has been specified as £450 for public authorities such as the Southern Trust. This represents the cost of one or more person spending 18 hours or more in determining whether we hold the information locating retrieving and extracting the information.

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