

Histopathology Training

Reference Number: RDF1811-23

Date of Response: 18/09/23

Further to your Freedom of Information Act request, please find the Trust's response(s) below:

Please be aware that the Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (Royal Devon) has existed since 1st April 2022 following the integration of the Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust (known as Northern Services) and the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust (known as Eastern Services).

Dear Royal Devon Trust,

Under the Freedom of Information Act I would like to request information regarding the use of training funding for Histopathology training. It is my understanding that approximately £30,000 is allocated for each ST1 appointed into the Trust.

- 1. Please can you provide the name of the person responsible for making the spending decisions and how and why the funds have been spent over the last 10 years. Please also provide the total funds received each year for comparison.*

Answer: The Pathology Service Manager alongside the Clinical Lead for Histopathology are responsible for spending decisions but in line with HEE rules for allocation of funding, i.e. we spend it on trainees because that's what it is allocated for. Over the last 5 years the funds have been spent to train Histopathologists, leading to Histopathologists with FRCPATH and Certificate of Completion of Training and therefore eligible for Consultant posts.

Please see below for funding data for 2019 – 2023.

Histology ST1 Budget, Expenditure and HEE Funding 2019-23								
FY	Account(T)	Budgeted WTE 06144	CY Budget in 06144	Expense 06144	HEE placements	HEE Funding before Topslicing (in 23250 and/or 06144)	Topsliced (PGME)	Net HEE Funding
2019	STR Level 1 & 2	1.00	46,017.00	68,998.19	2.00	61,529.00	4,685.68	56,843.32
2020	STR Level 1 & 2	1.00	47,573.00	-	2.00	61,508.00	4,630.69	56,877.31
2021	STR Level 1 & 2	1.00	48,849.00	6,323.24	2.00	62,839.00	4,482.32	58,356.68
2022	STR Level 1 & 2	1.00	102,223.00	93,161.08	3.00	84,780.00	21,196.00	63,584.00
2023	STR Level 1 & 2	1.00	51,038.00	91,160.25	3.00	98,091.00	-	98,090.00
Grand Total		5.00	295,700.00	259,642.76				

The Trust has considered your request for data representing 2014 -2018 the Trust holds this data, however to provide you with the information requested would require the manual extraction and manipulation of information from various sources including legacy systems. To carry out this work would exceed the appropriate cost limit as set out in Section 12 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is therefore exempt.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 Section 12 (1) and defined in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004, a public authority is not obliged to comply with a request for information if it estimates that the cost of complying would exceed the appropriate limit. The limit of £450 represents the estimated cost of one person spending two and a half days in determining whether the Trust holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting that information.