

Staff Levels at NDDH by Department

Reference Number: RDF2025-23

Date of Response: 10/11/23

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).

I am writing to put in a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I would like to request data regarding the staffing levels at '[North Devon District Hospital](#)' for each department and how frequently the hospital falls below its minimum staff threshold.

More precisely, I am interested in the following information since 2019 until now:

- 1. The minimum staff threshold for each department and the total number of occasions each month when each department has fallen below this threshold.*

Answer: The Trust has considered your request, however to provide you with the information requested would require the manual extraction and manipulation of information from various sources.

The Trust does not hold this information in a reportable format and would need to contact each department manager individually; managers would need to review individual staff rosters to identify any months the department was under staffed. To obtain this information annually would exceed the appropriate cost limit as set out in Section 12 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, therefore to obtain the information requested from 2019 to 2023 would exceed the appropriate cost limit as set out in Section 12 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

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.

- 2. The number of occasions in which each department was understaffed on a monthly basis.*

Answer: Please see response to question 1.