

## Cancer Treatments

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Reference Number: RDF1863-23

Date of Response: 20/09/23

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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust,*

*I writing to request, under the Freedom of Information Act, the number of cancer treatments started at each cancer stage in each of the last five years in your trust.*

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 including individual records and multiple systems, including legacy systems.

To identify the number of cancer treatments administered at each cancer stage, each individual cancer patient's record must be manually checked. The Trust is not able to extract a report because the data is unstructured i.e. it is recorded in a free text box, and/or in a Consultant/GP letter. 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.