

Title:  
X-ray Referrals

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Reference Number: RDF1366

Date of Response: 23/03/2023

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).

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information.

Please provide the following information for the period 01 January 2022 – 31 December 2022 relating to patient referrals for x-ray appointments from care homes and nursing homes:

- Care homes
  - The number of residents referred to hospital for an x-ray
  - How many of these referrals resulted in the resident being admitted to hospital for an overnight stay
- Nursing homes
  - The number of residents referred to hospital for an x-ray
  - How many of these referrals resulted in the resident being admitted to hospital for an overnight stay

The Trust has considered your request, however to provide you with the information requested on the number of residents referred to hospital for an x-ray would require manually reviewing every radiology attendance over the time period requested, to look at the patients address, to check where they have attended from. The numbers of patients involved will be upwards of 100,000.

To try to respond to your request for how many of these referrals resulted in the resident being admitted to hospital for an overnight stay, would require the manual extraction and manipulation of information from various sources.

The Trust is exempting the information requested in this FOI . 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.