Request Reference: FOI/70/23 Published: 10 April 2024

Information requested:

Please provide me:

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

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

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.

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)

For each question, please provide figures

For the trust as a whole, and then for each individual hospital under your trust For the last 5 financial years, NOT calendar years as I first requested. Please include this financial year too:

2019/2020 2020/2021 2021/2022 2022/2023 2023/2024 (for this year, please provide the figures from the start of the year to 29/02/2024)

I am expecting the data in table format, with years in the rows, and then a column for the trust as a whole, as well as a column for each hospital you serve.

Response:

The records that we hold do not separate staff and food/ingredients costs. We give notice under FOISA section 17 that we do not hold the information requested for questions 1 and 3 because we are not required to create new data to answer FOI requests. We have provided the information we do hold, which does include staff costs.

To calculate the average daily cost per patient; we use a national system which provides a 'cost per patient' each quarter. We averaged these figures for each year to provide the amounts shown below.

Year	Total Amount Spent	Total Number of Meals Served to patients	Average Daily Cost per Patient	Average Number of Patients Served per Day
2019/2020	£196,060.00	115,776	£6.23	105
2020/2021	£248,652.00	124,878	£6.07	114
2021/2022	£265,827.00	127,266	£6.12	116
2022/2023	£297,784.00	121,557	£7.41	111
2023/2024	£252,033.00	86,343	£8.92	106