

Date: 03/03/2015

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - Ref: FOI/012130

With reference to your FOI request in connection with 'Hearing Aids' please see response below.

In order to better understand the dynamics of the UK hearing aid market I'm submitting a FOI request for data on which manufacturer's hearing aids The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, or any predecessor organisation, has purchased and dispensed over the past 5 years.

Ideally I'd like this data on a monthly basis and described on a £ and unit basis. An example data point might be:

"The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust spent £20,000 on the 100 Sonova hearing aids purchased in November 2014"

If you can provide this data we would seek to publish it in an analysed form to a wide selection of our clients. The HTML link to our research would be accessible to anyone. is this ok??

To retrieve each invoice for the information you have requested over the past 5 years would be well in excess of 18 hours.

The Trust does not hold the information you have requested pre April 2011. This was held by Dudley PCT. Dudley PCT no longer exists.

The information post April 2011 is held and is invoiced based. The Trust has estimated that there are in excess of 900 lines per financial year within the database which would need to be reviewed individually to retrieve the information that you have requested. This would mean that there would be approximately 2700 lines within the database covering calendar years April 2011 - March 2012, April 2012 - March 2013 and April 2013 - March 2014 alone.

Therefore The Trust wishes to use exemption Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act (where the cost to provide the information would exceed £450, which is equivalent to over 18 hours of staff work)