

Trust Headquarters
Russells Hall Hospital
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2HQ

Ref: FOI-092025-0001901

Date: 18.11.25

Address / Email:

Dear

Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Request

I would like to request the following information from under the Freedom of Information Act 2000:

1.) The amount of money spent by the trust on legal cases (or law firms) defending it against whistleblowers, against claims of workplace discrimination, and defending it in employment disputes in the last five financial years.

Please can the data be broken down by each year for the last five financial years (2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25).

Response

The Trust does hold information on settlement amounts but we do not hold a central record that itemises legal costs specifically attributable to whistleblowing or employment tribunal claims.

Legal expenditure is recorded at a general level and is not broken down by case type in a format that would allow us to run a report for the information requested.

The ICO guidance clearly states "FOIA only applies to information that a public authority already holds in recorded form at the time of a request. If you don't hold a particular piece of information that someone has asked for, you don't have to create it."

General information on legal costs can be found in the Trust's Annual Reports which can be found [Reports and Publications - The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust](#)

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you have the right to appeal in line with guidance from the Information Commissioner. In the first instance you may contact the Information Governance Manager of the Trust.

Information Governance Manager
Trust Headquarters
Russell's Hall Hospital
Dudley

FOI/REF -

West Midlands
DY1 2HQ
Email: dgft.dpo@nhs.net

Should you disagree with the contents of our response to your appeal, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioners Office at.

Information Commissioners Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 0303 123 1113
www.ico.org.uk

If you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team
The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust