



Information Governance Team
99 Waverley Road
St Albans
Hertfordshire
AL3 5TL

Tel: 01727 804954
Email: foi@hpft.nhs.uk

Our Ref: FOI 2407

Thank you for your request concerning the hire of external non-clinical consultants in the past 6 financial years.

Your request has been considered and processed in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000.

Question:

- 1) **Has the Trust hired external non-clinical consultants in the financial years**
Yes
- 2) **For each financial year please provide the amount spent on external non-clinical consultants with a breakdown by firm.**
- 3) **For each financial year please provide the number of hours external non-clinical consultants were contracted for**
- 4) **Please provide a brief description of the work the external non-clinical consultants carried out if possible.**

Answer:

We are unable to provide you with the information you have requested as this would exceed the appropriate cost limit of £450. In the past six years we have used over 240 different agencies covering both clinical and non-clinical consultants, resulting in approximately 3,520 invoices. To provide you with the above data we would need to look at each invoice.

It is estimated that it would take approximately 5 minutes to manually review each invoice i.e. 293 hours @ £25ph = £7,325 and under section 12 of the FOIA a public authority only has to comply with a request for information when the cost of compliance does not exceed the appropriate limit or when the cost of compliance is met by the applicant.

Should you require further clarification or like to discuss payment, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please find enclosed an information sheet regarding copyright protection and the Trust's complaints procedure in the event that you are not satisfied with the response.

Yours sincerely

Sue Smith

Sue Smith
FOI/DPA Officer

Enc: Copyright Protection and Complaints Procedure Information Leaflet.
If you would like to complete a short survey in relation to your Freedom of Information request please scan the QR code below or click [here](#).

