



25 May 2017

Information Rights & Compliance Team  
99 Waverley Road  
St Albans  
Hertfordshire  
AL3 5TL

Tel: 01727 804954  
Email: [foi@hpft.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@hpft.nhs.uk)

Our Ref: FOI 2573

Thank you for your request concerning the Department of Health's policies and guidance on the regulations for charging 'Overseas Visitors'.

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

1) **In relation to the costs recouped by your Trust as a result of these policies for the financial years 2014/15, 2015/16, and 2016/17, I would like to know:**

a. **The total number of 'Overseas Visitors' who were invoiced for using services in each of these financial years.**

Zero

b. **The total amount of income 'Overseas Visitors' were invoiced for in each of these financial years.**

Zero

c. **The number of these invoices which were sent to UK addresses and the total amount they represented.**

Zero

d. **The total amount of payments actually recovered in each of these financial years.**

Zero

e. **The amount of debts written off in each of these financial years.**

Zero

2) **In relation to the costs incurred by your Trust of implementing these policies, I would like to know:**

a. **The cost of funding the salaries of Overseas Visitors Manager/s and any staff supporting them.**

We do not employ any such staff. Our Bed Managers would be involved, but it isn't possible to estimate what proportion of their salaries would be spent on these matters.

- b. **Any other costs associated with this work, including those such as facilities and equipment.**

Zero

- c. **The overall cost of implementing these policies.**

Zero

3) **I would also like to request:**

- a. **Copies of any communications with the Department of Health, including emails, electronic documentation and meeting minutes, regarding this matter which relates specifically to your Trust, for example feedback on your performance following submission of the data.**

Not applicable.

- b. **The minutes of any board meetings where this matter was discussed.**

All the minutes of our board meetings are published on our Trust website. Please follow this [link](#).

4) **Any other information which you believe is relevant to this request.**

We are a Mental Health and Specialist Learning Disabilities Trust and this request is much less relevant to us than to Acute Trusts. Most referrals to our services are made by GPs, and all referrals go through our Single Point of Access (SPA) referral team. At triage, SPA is responsible for ensuring eligibility criteria for each service is met. Patients who aren't the responsibility of the Herts CCGs (or other relevant CCGs outside of Herts) are not provided with a service unless it is an emergency admission. In the case of an emergency admission this is not subject to charging.

- 5) **I would also like to know whether or not your Trust has been identified as one of those cited by Jeremy Hunt in 'Making a Fair Contribution' as one that "NHS Improvement will work intensively over the coming months with" because it is considered to be one of those "who has the most potential to recover costs" as a result of its "geography and size"**

Not applicable.

Should you require further clarification, 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](#).

