

Freedom of Information Act 2000

The Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust Response to Information request

Date Request Received: 3rd March 2025

FOI Ref No 27893

Requested Information:

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act regarding the expenditure on collecting Elective Orthopaedic Patient-Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs) data within your trust.

Specifically, I would like to know:

1. Total Expenditure: The total amount spent by your trust on collecting Orthopaedic PROMs data over the last ten financial years (2013-2024).
2. Breakdown of Costs: A detailed breakdown of this expenditure for each year, including:
 - Costs associated with third-party suppliers for Orthopaedic PROMs data collection.
 - Internal costs related to staff time and resources utilised for this purpose. –
 - The respective contract values for each year if third party suppliers are used.

Response:

1. **We have spent £12k in each financial year since 2018 on third party suppliers.**
2. **We have spent £12k in each financial year since 2018 on a third-party supplier.**
 - **RCHT does review the data collected by PROMS and this is used in virtual reviews with patients following joint replacements.**
 - **Providing a breakdown of internal costs related to staff time and resources utilised for this purpose would exceed the cost limit for Freedom of Information requests. Please see below for information regarding the exemption.**

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - INFORMATION REQUEST Ref:

Further to your request for information dated 3rd March 2025, I can confirm that the

Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust holds information that falls within the description specified in your request. However, we estimate that the costs of complying with your request would exceed the cost limit. The cost limit is specified in regulations and for the Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust this is set at £450. The cost limit represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 working hours in determining whether the Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust hold the information, locating, retrieving, and extracting the information. Consequently, the Trust is not obliged under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to respond to your request, and we will not be processing your request further. **The information you have requested would take one member of staff over 18 hours to collate, as it would involve going through ten years' worth of data.**

RCHT has provided the information that is available without exceeding the cost limit. It is felt that there is no way to narrow the scope of the manual search that would be required to determine what is being asked. I have therefore estimated that it would exceed the appropriate limit to proceed with your request.

I apologise that we are unable to fully assist you in this instance.

If you wish to discuss any of the above, please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to the Information Governance Manager, Kedhlow Building, Royal Cornwall Hospital, Truro, Cornwall, TR1 3LJ or e-mail rch-tr.FOI@nhs.net

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint or review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Royal Cornwall Hospital.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:
Information Commissioner's Office

Wycliffe House

Water Lane

Wilmslow

Cheshire

SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113 or 01625 54 57 45

www.ico.org.uk

Attachment(s):

No attachments

Date Response sent: 23rd May 2025