

Please contact: Access to Information
Team
Email: MLCSU.FOITeam@nhs.net
Direct tel: 01782 916875

Level 3, Christ Church Precinct
County Hall
Fishergate Hill
Preston
PR1 8XB

28 February 2024

t: 0300 373 3550
www.lancashireandsouthcumbria.icb.nhs.uk

Re: Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000
Ref no: FOI-3838-LSC

Thank you for your request dated 24 January 2024.

We can confirm that the ICB does hold the information you requested.

Please find our response to your questions below:

1. How much did your Trust spend in total on education and training in the following financial years?

April to March 2021-2022 (overall spend)
April to March 2022- 2023 (overall spend)

Please refer to the attached document.

2. Please advise how much of this total spend was with external providers?

April to March 2021-2022 (overall spend)
April to March 2022- 2023 (overall spend)

NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB do hold the information however we have applied a Section 12 to this request. Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 allows a public authority to refuse a request if the cost of providing the information to the applicant would exceed the 'appropriate limit' as defined by the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004:

"Section 12 Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit

(1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit".

The Regulations states that the appropriate limit to be applied to requests received by local authorities is £450 (equivalent to 2.5 days of work) for the purposes of the estimate the costs of performing these activities should be estimated at a rate of £25 per hour (£25 x 18hours = £450).

In estimating the cost of complying with a request for information, an authority can only take into account any reasonable costs incurred in:

“(a) determining whether it holds the information,
(b) locating the information, or a document which may contain the information,
(c) retrieving the information, or a document which may contain the information, and
(d) extracting the information from a document containing it”.

We have carried out a reasonable and proportionate search to locate all of the documents that relate to the above request for information and outline how this was carried out.

A search has been undertaken to verify that this information is not recorded in a reportable format. There are approximately 1,900 transactions which would require analysing in order to extract the detail required, and this level of detail which could be report is dependant on the level of detail recorded in each invoice.

Of those 1,900 transactions, it would take between 2 to 4 minutes per transaction to extract the detail required, which would convert to anywhere between 63 to 127 hours.

It is unlikely that the ICB would be able to provide a response if this request was condensed, as this would still require an interrogation of each transaction.

3. Please can you break down the overall spend into the following categories?

Apprenticeship training
April to March 2021-2022 (overall spend)
April to March 2022- 2023 (overall spend)

Please refer to the response within question 2.

4. Mandatory, statutory and compliance training

April to March 2021-2022 (overall spend)
April to March 2022- 2023 (overall spend)

Please refer to the response within question 2.

5. Management and Leadership training

April to March 2021-2022 (overall spend)
April to March 2022- 2023 (overall spend)

Please refer to the response within question 2.

6. Healthcare support worker training

April to March 2021-2022 (overall spend)
April to March 2022- 2023 (overall spend)

Please refer to the response within question 2.

7. Nursing

April to March 2021-2022 (overall spend)

April to March 2022- 2023 (overall spend)

Please refer to the response within question 2.

8. Allied Healthcare Professionals
April to March 2021-2022 (overall spend)
April to March 2022- 2023 (overall spend)

Please refer to the response within question 2.

9. What are the top five categories that you procure externally?

Please refer to the response within question 2.

Right of Appeal

Should you require any further information or clarification regarding this response please do not hesitate to contact us. If you are dissatisfied with the response, you are entitled to request an internal review which should be formally requested in writing and must be within 40 working days from the date this response was issued.

To request an internal review

You can request this by contacting the FOI team by email at MLCSU.FOITeam@nhs.net or by post to Leyland House, Lancashire Business Park, Leyland, PR26 6TR, specifying why you require a review.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the CCGs FOI complaints procedure. The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliff House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF
www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

Sam Proffitt – Chief Finance Officer

**On behalf of Kevin Lavery
ICB Chief Executive**