

Date: 9 November 2018

Re: Freedom of Information Request
Ref: 222-2018

Thank you for your email dated 15th October 2018 requesting information regarding sanitary products.

The information that you require is as follows:

- 1) **Does your trust provide free female sanitary products (such as sanitary pads and tampons, but excluding maternity sanitary products) to in-patients?**

At The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre- Wirral, we would expect patients to purchase their own from the shop if required; however, we do stock a small supply of sanitary towels on each ward. Our Haemato- Oncology service, based within the Royal Liverpool Hospital, does not provide any free sanitary products to patients.

- 2) **Does your trust have a policy covering the provision of female sanitary products (such as sanitary pads and tampons, but excluding maternity sanitary products) to in-patients? If yes, please provide this policy.**

No

- 3) **How many premises with inpatient beds are there in your trust, and at how many of these premises are female sanitary products (such as sanitary pads and tampons, but excluding maternity sanitary products) available to purchase on site? For example, in shops or bathroom vending-machines.**

We have 2 sites with inpatient beds. We have shops on both sites where products can be purchased.

Neither site provides any sanitary vending machines.

- 4) **How much did your trust spend (£) on female sanitary products (such as sanitary pads and tampons, but excluding maternity sanitary products) in the following financial years:**

Please note- Unfortunately, our finance systems do not go into the product detail, however, we are able to supply the information below from NHS supply chain.

- 2017/18 **£32.62**
- 2016/17 **£34.78**
- 2015/16 **£17.86**
- 2014/15 **Information not held**
- 2013/14 **Information not held**
- 2012/13 **Information not held**

And, where possible, please provide a breakdown of this spending against the products' NHS Supply Chain catalogue codes.

Please see the following spreadsheets attached:

**FOI 222-2018 Response Spreadsheet for 2015
FOI 222-2018 Response Spreadsheet for 2016
FOI 222-2018 Response Spreadsheet for 2017
FOI 222-2018 Response Spreadsheet for 2018**

- 5) **How many inpatients beds were there in your trust for each of the following financial years?**

- 2017/18 - **105**
- 2016/17 - **71**
- 2015/16 - **77**
- 2014/15 - **77**
- 2013/14 - **77**
- 2012/13 - **81**

- 6) **Please provide a list of all items that are supplied to in-patients free of charge in your trust, and a list of all items which you advise in-patients to bring with them for an overnight or extended stay.**

The wards can provide towels, disposable wipes and soap if required.

Patients are asked to bring the following items:

- **All medicines you are currently taking**
- **Toiletries for your personal use**
- **Day and night clothes**
- **Any walking aids that you use at home**

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me on the email address provided below.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for this to be investigated internally.

If you are dissatisfied with the information you have received, you have the right to ask for an internal review.

Both processes will be handled in accordance with our Trust's Freedom of Information Policy and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Internal investigation and internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Freedom of Information Review, The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust, Clatterbridge Road, Bebington, Wirral, CH63 4JY

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of the internal investigation/review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

In order for us to ensure customer satisfaction and to monitor compliance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we would be grateful if you could take a couple of minutes to complete a short feedback form via the link below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/H39RFMM>