

Ref: FOI/CAD/ID 4021

Please reply to:
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Freedom of Information Act 2000

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to hospital food costs and wastage.

1. *Could you tell me the cost of feeding one inpatient per day (patient meal day) calculated in the same way it is done for the ERIC data?*

<http://hefs.hscic.gov.uk/ERIC.asp>

I would like the average daily cost for the provision of all meals and beverages fed to one inpatient per day. The cost should include all pay and non-pay, including provisions, ward issues, disposables, equipment and its maintenance. This is not the average cost for a single meal but for all meals and beverages delivered to the patients in one day. Please supply the latest possible data 2016/17.

2. *Could you tell me the number of wasted meal servings using the same calculation methods used in the ERIC reporting system. Although this figure is no longer included in the ERIC reporting I would still like to see latest figures. Please supply up to date figures including 2017. For plated meal systems, this is the number (calculated over the full menu cycle or 7 days where no menu cycle is used), of unserved in-patient meals remaining at the end of the meals service period expressed as a percentage of the total number of meals provided and available at the commencement of the meal service period.*

1. The ERIC data for 2016/17 is not yet available. The Trust is applying the exemption Section 22 - Information intended for future publication.
2. This is not information that the Trust collect on a daily basis however at the last audit which was completed the following wastage figures applied to untouched patient meals remaining at the end of the meals service:

Maidstone (Plated Meals) 5%
Tunbridge Wells (Bulk) 8%

These figures include patients who become nil by mouth, too poorly to eat and those discharged just before the meal service.