

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 6255

Please reply to: FOI Administrator Trust Management Maidstone Hospital Hermitage Lane Maidstone, Kent ME16 9QQ Email: mtw-tr.foiadmin@nhs.net

28 August 2020

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 Translation or interpreter services.

You asked:

For the financial years 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, and 2019-20, please provide the following information:

1. How much your trust has spent on translation/interpreter services (on both telephone and face-to-face and including British Sign Language)?

2. How much your trust has spent on the translation of written information for patients or carers?

3. How much your trust has spent on the employment of

translators/interpreters, and which languages these employees covered? 4. How much your trust has spent on employing advocates for non-English speakers?

5. What was the average waiting time for a consultation with an interpreter after initial request for interpreter services (for both telephone and face-to-face appointments)?

6. Which company does the trust use for interpretation services?

Trust response:

1.

2019/20 £198,954 2018/19 £128,974 2017/18 £91,221 2016/17 £148,776 2015/16 £26,971

2. This cannot be identified. The cost to the Trust is amalgamated within all printing and stationery expenditure.

3. No cost, the Trust does not employ translators/interpreters.

4. No cost, the Trust does not employ advocates.5. We do not record waiting times for consultations – consultations are booked and interpreters requested. Telephone interpreting is usually done on the day.

6. OnCall