

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 7838

**Please reply to:**  
FOI Administrator  
Trust Management  
Maidstone Hospital  
Hermitage Lane  
Maidstone, Kent  
ME16 9QQ  
Email: [mtw-tr.foiadmin@nhs.net](mailto:mtw-tr.foiadmin@nhs.net)  
[www.mtw.nhs.uk](http://www.mtw.nhs.uk)

12 December 2022

## **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 outstanding medical bills.

*You asked:*

- 1. The total outstanding medical bills currently owed to the Trust by overseas visitors. Please provide subtotals for each hospital within the Trust.*
- 2. The top three highest outstanding medical bills owed to the Trust by individual overseas visitors and the nationality of those visitors. (i.e. £495,000 owed by an individual from France)*
- 3. Of the total amount owed to the Trust, please provide a breakdown of the nationalities of overseas visitors who currently have outstanding medical bills (i.e. visitors from USA: £200,000 / visitors from Japan: £130,000)*
- 4. Please provide a breakdown of medical procedures that the outstanding medical bills relate to, for example £300,000 owed for Kidney disease treatments, for the Trust as a whole.*

Trust response:

Please note: Under Section 40 the Trust will not release a patient's nationality, medical diagnosis or procedure as this may enable the patient to be identified.

1. Total outstanding debt from 2017 (this is when the Trust began recording this data) – to date is £1,131,106.51
2. Top three largest debts are £22922.52, £16867.91 and £16096.46. Further more detailed information will not be released as this may allow the patient to be identified.
3. The Trust does not log the patient's nationality on the invoices raised. It may be possible that this information has been entered into the patient record but in order to confirm this each patient record would need to be manually checked by a staff member. The Trust has estimated that it will cost more than the appropriate limit to consider this part of your request. The appropriate limit is specified in regulations and represents the estimated cost

of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Trust holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 the Trust is not obliged to comply with this part of your request and we will not be processing this part of your request further.

4. This information is not held in a reportable format. It may be possible that this information has been entered into the patient record but in order to confirm this each patient record would need to be manually checked by a clinical staff member. The Trust has estimated that it will cost more than the appropriate limit to consider this part of your request. The appropriate limit is specified in regulations and represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Trust holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 the Trust is not obliged to comply with this part of your request and we will not be processing this part of your request further.