

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 7993

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 External consultancy services, data analysts and statisticians.

You asked: All questions are shown as received by the Trust.

1. *How much money was spent on external consultancy services to help improve hospital processes and efficiency for the tax years 2012 to 2022?*
2. *Has your organisation directly employed during the period of 2012 to 2022 data analysts and or statisticians (not through consultancy services nor through academic access)?*

Statisticians: Yes or No

Data analysts: Yes or No

3. *If yes, to question 2, did they facilitate non-research hospital governance and improvement activity and/or data analytics for the NHS?*
4. *Does your hospital currently have an improvement/development team?*

No

Yes, and it does not include data analysts or statisticians

Yes, and it includes data analysts or statisticians.

5. *Which group of employees carries out the majority of governance and improvement projects? a) doctors, b) nurses, c) doctors and nurses, d) a specific team.*

Trust response:

1. Due to how consultancy services are coded within our finance ledger this code covers all types of advisory work, not specifically 'improving hospital processes and efficiency'. A member of the Finance Team would have to manually go through ten years of data, looking at each invoice to determine

which could be applied to that specific category. 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.

2.

Statisticians: No (but we use statistical approaches to our analysis and several of our analysts have a statistical background)

Data analysts: Yes

3. Yes

4. Yes, and it does not include data analysts or statisticians – but it has close links with our Trust BI team and they are co-located.

5. A specific team – The Improvement & Delivery Department within which sits a Programme Management Office coordinating governance and undertaking assurance.