

Date Received: 08/05/07

Date Completed: 07/06/07

Detail of request:

- Please could you state the amount spent by your organisation, including each hospital and GP practice, on translating and interpreting costs for each financial year since 2000/2001.
- Could you state the overall budget for each organisation, hospital and GP practice for the financial year.
- Could you also state which languages are being used, and how many new translating and interpreting posts have been created.
- Where no new posts have been created, can you state how many existing posts have been either
 - a) Filled by people who have translating/interpreting ability.
 - b) Changed to require the post holder to speak one or more languages other than English.
- Could you also state your financial position for this year, including details of any projected gross deficit.

Detail of response:

Having contacted the NHS Trust's Human Resources Department I have been advised that we do not have a Translating and Interpreting Service Department, if translators are required we request these from outside the NHS Trust.

- Figures are only available for the whole NHS Trust not each separate Hospital. GP practices do not fall under the NHS Trust.

I have been informed that figures before financial year 2003/04, are not stored in a format that is easily extractable. It is estimated to extract the information would incurred an exercise exceeding the £450 compliance limit. As such under section 12 of the Act, we are not obliged to provide the information to you. We can however comply with our duty to confirm or deny whether we hold the information. We do hold data from which the requested information may be collated.

2003/04	£65,767
2004/05	£81,119
2005/06	£75,950
2006/07	£78,462

- The Barking, Havering and Redbridge Hospitals NHS Trust budget (2007/08) for interpreting fees has been set at £78,462.
- I have been informed we do not have a department and therefore do not have any posts as such. Having made enquiries I have been informed that unfortunately, information with regards to the languages requested, is not held in an easily extractable format. While languages such as Polish and Bengali are quite commonly requested, in order to gain a conducive list of

all of the languages, would involve an exercise estimated exceeding the £450 compliance limit. As such under Section 12 of the Act, we are not obliged to provide the information to you. We can however comply with our duty to confirm or deny whether we hold the information. We do hold data from which the requested information may be collated.

- Non-applicable.
- I have been informed that this information will be available in our Annual Report which is issued at the NHS Trust's AGM on 27th September 2007. As such this information is exempt under Section 22 Information intended for future publication. The public interest in releasing the information has been considered, but it has been decided that it could be misleading if information is released in isolation.

Additional information:

Details of complaints procedure and Section 50 decision notice provided.