



East London
NHS Foundation Trust
Information Governance
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13 June 2024

Our reference: FOI DA5370

I am responding to your request for information received 3 May 2024. I am sorry for the delay in responding to your request. This has been treated as a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am now enclosing a response which is attached to the end of this letter. Please do not hesitate to contact me on the contact details above if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

Information Rights Coordinator

If you are dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your FOIA request then you should contact us and we will arrange for an internal review of this decision.

If you remain dissatisfied with the decision following our response to your complaint, you may write to the Information Commissioner for a decision under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113
Web: www.ico.org.uk

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Chief Executive Officer: Lorraine Sunduza
Chair: Eileen Taylor

Request: Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to ask that you answer the following questions that relate to spending on absorbent continence products within your NHS Trust in the last 5 years.

For context, the information requested relates to the NHS Bladder and Bowel or Continence Services, which provide absorbent continence pads to adult community patients. The individual trust data is requested.

Question 1: In your Trust is there a “cap/limit” on the number of absorbent continence pads provided per patient in each 24-hour period, if so, what is the number?

Answer: In Bedfordshire Community Health Services, the Trust has a cap of three pads per individual in each 24-hour period.

For the Newham Community Health Service caps – please refer to Appendix 1 attached.

For the Tower Hamlets Community Health Service caps - please refer to Appendix 2 attached.

Question 2: How much has your Trust actually spent on absorbent continence products during each of the last 5 financial years, and what is the annual budget for absorbent continence products during each of those years? Please give a figure for each year 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23.

Answer: Please see table below:

Financial Year	Actual spend on continence products (£)	Annual Budget on continence products (£)
2018-19*	854,860.00	775,575
2019-20	2,145,941	1,516,897
2020-21	2,265,122	1,478,154
2021-22	2,315,769	2,128,772
2022-23	2,409,163	2,172,678

*Please note, the figures for 2018/19 represent spend in London only. Figures for Bedfordshire Community Health services are not available and therefore not included in the total figure for Trust wide expenditure.

Question 3: What is the total annual number of patients in receipt of absorbent continence products in your Trust? Please give a figure for each year 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23.

Answer: Please see table below:

Year	Total number of patients to receive absorbent continence products
2018/19	10,070
2019/20	10,151
2020/21	10,102
2021/22	9,105
2022/23	10,050

