

Ref. No: 0763
Date: 08/03/24
Subject: Hospital Food

REQUEST

1. The total £ amount spent on patient meals. I would like a figure for just the food / ingredients, without including staff costs or equipment.
2. The total number of meals served to patients (including breakfast if possible)
3. The average daily cost of meals per patient in £. i.e. how much does it cost to feed one patient for a day, taking just the food / ingredients costs into account, so again not including staff costs or equipment. Provide this as an average over the year, along with a note on the method used to work this out if possible.
4. The average number of patients you fed per day over the year (i.e. on any given day we fed an average of 100 patients)

For each question, please provide figures for the Trust as a whole, and then for each individual hospital under your Trust. Please also provide data for the last 5 financial years, including this financial year to date:

- 2019/2020
- 2020/2021
- 2021/2022
- 2022/2023
- 2023/2024 (for this year, please provide the figures from the start of the year to 29/02/2024)

I am expecting the data in table format, with years in the rows, and then a column for the Trust as a whole, as well as a column for each hospital you serve.

Please also provide any necessary notes on the information you provide to make sure I have a full understanding of the figures and what they denote.

RESPONSE

St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust became a single legal entity known as Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust on 1st July 2023, as such parts of the response may be provided in two sections relating to the hospital sites of each of the legacy organisations.

Section 21: information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means

Under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act, Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust do not have to provide information to the applicant which is easily accessible by other means. The information you require can be viewed within the Estates Returns Information Collection (ERIC) – specifically by referring to the '*Site Data*' resource and the '*Inpatient food service cost (£)*' and '*Inpatient main meals requested (No.)*' data columns.

<https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/estates-returns-information-collection>