

21 June 2022

Aeromedics Air Ambulance Service – Spend and Patients Transferred

I would like the following information:

The amount of money paid by the Trust each year since 2012, broken down by year, to Aeromedics air ambulance service.

2021/22 Total		17,220.00
2020/21 Total		36,870.00
2019/20 Total		344,360.00
2018/19 Total		358,950.00
2017/18 Total		291,870.00
2016/17 Total		275,550.00
2015/16 Total		330,400.00
2014/15 Total		164,800.00
2013/14 Total		25,930.00
2012/13 Total		52,250.00

The number of patients transferred by Aeromedics air ambulance service on behalf of the Trust each year since 2012, broken down by year.

Belfast Trust NISTAR records only go back as far as September 2018. Transfers per year for Aeromedics were:

2018 (Sept to Dec)	59
2019	178
2020	41
2021	9
2022 (to date)	0

For clarification - while Aeromedics facilitated the transfers above, these were all road transfers and not air transfers.

Belfast Trust do not hold any further information centrally on the use of this service. Forms for patient transfer by Aeromedics are completed and sent to the Department of Health's Strategic Planning and Performance Group (SPPG) and so you may wish to refer your question to them, as they will likely hold accurate information related to this.

Belfast Trust hold a copy of the correspondence in the patient chart, but to provide it would involve a trawl through individual patient records. Belfast Trust considers that the cost of retrieving the information would be above the 'Appropriate Limit', as defined by the Freedom of Information Act under Section 12. Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit. The limit has been specified as £450 for public authorities such as Belfast Trust. This represents the cost of one or more persons spending 18 hours in determining whether we hold the information, locating, retrieving and extracting this information.