

Ref. No: 0915
Date: 03/05/24
Subject: Continence Products (Spend)

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.

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?
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.
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.

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.

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?

St Helens and Knowsley:

I can state from Community side we issue up to 3 containment products in a 24hr period.

Southport and Ormskirk:

We do not have continence services, but we have a continence service to refer in for both Sefton and West Lancs patients.

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.

St Helens and Knowsley:

Actual annual spending on absorbent continence products

2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
£415,239	£483,465	£539,472	£519,891	£552,896

Annual budget for absorbent continence products				
2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
£312,000	£463,859	£541,832	£540,854	£535,854

Southport and Ormskirk:

The continence products were not coded to the continence subjective at S&O. This information is not held.

- 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.**

We do not hold this level of information.