FOI 1902

Date 05/06/2023

Dear Requester,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request. Please note, this is a cross-site response for Bedford site and Luton site.

You asked:

1. Under the Freedom of Information Act could you please provide me with the mileage rates paid to staff at your trust claiming travel expenses? Could you also tell me if you have any local arrangements in place for specific departments?

The Trust currently pays mileage rates in accordance with AfC rates set nationally by the NHS at a rate of 56p per mile up to 3,500 miles. However, it has been recognised that the national rate of 20p per mile for any further miles is not sufficient to cover the current increased fuel costs and the Trust has introduced a local agreement to pay 45p per mile for mileage above 3500 miles. This is aligned to the tax free mileage rate up to 10,000 miles set by the HMRC. The Trust will continue to review these rates in line with fuel prices and adjust them as necessary.

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 Please note that the Trust has a formal internal review and complaints process which is managed by the Information Governance Manager/Data Protection Officer. Should you have any concerns with our response, you can make a formal request for an internal review. Requests for internal review should be submitted within three months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter, and should be addressed to: dataprotectionofficer@ldh.nhs.uk. This option is available to you for up to three calendar months from the date your response was issued.

If you are not satisfied with the Trust review under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Officer (ICO) for a review of your appeal decision. The ICO can be contacted at: ICO, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF www.ico.org.uk

 Yours sincerely,

 *FOI Officer*

 Bedfordshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust