

April 2011

- 1. What is the total cost of vehicles leased by your trust for employee transportation? By 'employee' I mean any individual who receives a salary or any benefits from your SHA - i.e. including all executive and non-executive board members, along with general employees, both clinical and managerial etc. Please include all costs for hiring the vehicle (including any relevant tax), any associated running and repair costs, and how these costs are broken down. Please provide this data for each separate year between the formation of your trust and the most recent year for which figures are available.*

We firstly would like to clarify that no employees of Southend University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (SUHFT) are employees of the SHA nor do they receive any payments or benefits therefrom. All staff (including directors – both executive and non-executive) are employees of SUHFT, which is a separately legally constituted corporate body. The Trust does not lease vehicles; rather there is an arrangement with a supplier that provides vehicles under a contract hire arrangement. This arrangement was tendered under competitive regulations and Knowles is the supplier.

The Trust contract hires a number of vans for general hospital use, for example in Facilities Department transporting deliveries between sites. There are seven such vans, and no individual uses these vans for private purposes.

The Trust currently have eleven vehicles (cars) on contract hire for specific members of staff. Staff have to apply for the vehicle based on the Trust scheme (copy enclosed) and the application has to be authorised by the member of staff's manager and approved by the Human Resources Department.

Only staff who travel in excess of 2,500 miles on business each year are eligible for a subsidised rate. Users also forgo their right to claim expenses. The cost to the Trust of the vehicle is calculated by deducting the employee contribution from the total contract hire monthly amount. The cost to the Trust is lower than the cost of the mileage allowances that employees would be eligible to claim, and thereby ensures value for taxpayer's money.

All staff who participate in the scheme are liable for income tax on the value of the vehicle in accordance with standard tax regulations.

The following list shows the vehicles currently contracted for staff, naturally excluding their personal details.

| LEASE CAR TABLE | | | |
|---|--------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| MAKE AND MODEL | | Monthly Trust Nett Cost | Value of Vehicle |
| Jaguar XF 3.0 V6 Premium Luxury | Pharmacist | 428.75 | 41,422 |
| Jaguar XF 3.0d Premium Luxury 4dr Automatic | Pharmacist | 246.07 | 39,416 |
| Audi A4 Multitronic Cabriolet | Consultant | 178.75 | 32,490 |
| Toyota Prius 1.5 VVTi T Spirit Hybrid 5dr CVT | Midwife | 178.75 | 20,612 |
| Mini Cooper 1.6d | Child Physio | 107.25 | 18,915 |
| VW Golf 1.6 Tdi | Midwife | 196.63 | 18,695 |
| Mini Cooper Clubman 1.6 5dr | Midwife | 214.49 | 17,505 |
| Mini Cooper 1.6 | Midwife | 125.13 | 15,905 |
| Peugeot 207 Hatchback 1.6 HDi 110 Sport | Consultant | 146.57 | 13,775 |
| Renault Clio 1.2 16v Dynamique Tom Tom | Midwife | 125.12 | 13,337 |
| Ford Fiesta TDCi Style Climate | Pharmacist | 160.05 | 11,660 |
| | | £2,107.56 | |

This information is for current contracts.

To provide the details back to the commencement of the life of SUHFT would be far too onerous as the information is not held in a readily accessible format. The Finance department inform me that to gather this information would far exceed the fee limits set out in the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the relevant fees regulations of 2004. Under s12 of the Act the Trust is entitled to refuse a request where the cost of responding exceeds £450, and must regretfully do so in this instance.

We hope the details above are adequate.

2. *What are the 10 most expensive car types/models of vehicle that have been used for employee transportation since your trust was created (based on list price)? Please list all vehicle types that have been used, where this information is available. Please provide the type of car (i.e. Peugeot, or Nissan etc) along with what model (i.e. Citroen C1 etc).*

The most expensive car type since the inception of the scheme is the top of the above list.