

ND ref. **FOI/16/041**

### ***Freedom of Information***

Thank you for your 25/04/16 correspondence and request for the following information, received by us on 26<sup>th</sup> April:

*I am writing to you on behalf of my constituent regarding secondary breast cancer and data collection.*

*My constituent recently wrote to the Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust asking if they were collecting data in diagnosis rates for secondary breast cancer. Unfortunately she has yet to receive a response.*

Please extend our apologies, we have no record of having received her original letter and therefore did not respond for that reason.

*My constituent states that since 2013, it has been mandatory for all Hospital Trusts in England to collect data on diagnoses of secondary breast cancer, This information is important as it helps to identify the numbers and needs of people living with this disease. It means that Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust and local commissioners have the right information to plan effective services to meet local patients' needs. Unfortunately, on a national level, no such data has been published to date, meaning that there is no accurate figure for the number of people diagnosed with secondary breast cancer.*

*Therefore my constituent would like to know the answer to the following questions:*

- 1. Is Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust routinely collecting data on secondary breast cancer?*

Answer: Yes, our Trust collects this data in line with both local and national guidance.

- 2. If so, how many people were diagnosed with the disease within the Trust in the last twelve months (or for the latest period available)? This should include (a) those who were diagnosed with secondary breast cancer at their first presentation; and (b) those for whom their primary breast cancer has progressed and spread to other parts of the body. Please also include the time period this data refers to.*

Answer: During the last financial year, 2015/2016, our Trust has recorded 19 patients as progressing to or presenting with metastatic disease.