



17 January 2025

**Our Ref:** FOI 386

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000  
Information in relation to Waiting Times in the Plastic Surgery Department**

I am writing to confirm that the South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust (the Trust) has now completed its search for information relating to above which you requested on 19 November 2024. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to your request. Thank you for your understanding and forbearance.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Surgery & Elective, Maternity & Paediatric Services Directorate and is attached in Appendix A.

If you are unhappy as to how this request has been handled, you have the right to seek a review within the Trust in the first instance. You should write to the Information Governance Department, Lough House, Ards Community Hospital ([informationgovernance@setrust.hscni.net](mailto:informationgovernance@setrust.hscni.net)) within two months of the date of this response and your complaint will be considered and a response provided, within 20 working days of receipt.

If, after receiving a response, you remain unhappy, you can refer your complaint to the Information Commissioner at The Information Commissioner's Office –Northern Ireland, 3rd Floor, 14 Cromac Place, Belfast, BT7 2JB. It is important to note that if you refer any matter to the Information Commissioner, you will need to show evidence of having gone through the Trust's internal review procedure to try to resolve the matter with the Trust in the first instance.

If you have any queries about this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

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**Rebecca Manning**  
Information Governance Officer

**Q1. The waiting time for an appointment with the Plastic Surgery Department for the removal of a contraceptive implant device, if referred by the Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare Service, Belfast, on a routine basis in 2019 and 2020;**

**Q2. The waiting time for an appointment with the Plastic Surgery Department for the removal of a contraceptive implant device, if referred by the Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare Service, Belfast, on an urgent basis in 2019 and 2020;**

**Q3. The waiting time for an appointment with the Plastic Surgery Department for the removal of a contraceptive implant device, if referred by the Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare Service, Belfast, on a red flag basis in 2019 and 2020;**

A1-3. In response to questions 1, 2 & 3, there have been no referrals by the Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare Service, Belfast to the Trust for the removal of a contraceptive implant device on a routine, urgent or red flag basis in 2019 and 2020.

**Q4. The waiting time for an appointment with the Plastic Surgery Department for the removal of a contraceptive implant device, if referred by a GP on a routine basis in 2019 and 2020;**

A4. The waiting time for an appointment with the Plastic Surgery Department for the removal of a contraceptive implant device, referred by a GP on a routine basis, in 2019 and 2020 was 5 years.

**Q5. The waiting time for an appointment with the Plastic Surgery Department for the removal of a contraceptive implant device, if referred by a GP on an urgent basis in 2019 and 2020;**

A5. The waiting time for an appointment with the Plastic Surgery Department for the removal of a contraceptive implant device, referred by a GP on an urgent basis, in 2019 and 2020 was 2.5 years.

**Q6. The waiting time for an appointment with the Plastic Surgery Department for the removal of a contraceptive implant device, if referred by a GP on a red flag basis in 2019 and 2020;**

A6. There were no appointments/referrals with the Plastic Surgery Department for the removal of a contraceptive implant device, referred by a GP on a red flag basis, in 2019 and 2020.

**Q7. The waiting time for the non-urgent removal of a contraceptive implant device in 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023.**

- A7. There were no appointments/referrals for non-urgent removal of a contraceptive implant device from 2019 to 2023.
- Q8. *The waiting time for the urgent removal of a contraceptive implant device in 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023.***
- A8. The waiting time for an urgent removal of a contraceptive implant device for 2020 was approximately 2.5 years.  
There were no appointments/referrals for an urgent removal during the years 2019 and 2021 to 2023.