



3 December 2024

Our Ref: FOI 353

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in relation to Prisoners who have Mental Health Issues**

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 12 November 2024.

A response to the question raised has been provided by the Adult Services and Prison Healthcare 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) 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

Rebecca Manning
Information Governance Officer

Q1. *Would there be data available on the number of/percentage of prisoners who have mental health issues or personality disorders?*

A1. As of 27th November 2024, there were 236 patients or 13% of the prison population who were engaged with Healthcare in Prison Mental Health Services inclusive of Psychological services.

It is not possible to provide an actual number of patients with a Mental Health diagnosis/Personality Difficulty as not all patients, working with Mental Health teams will have a confirmed diagnosis but will have an identified Mental Health related need.