



11 December 2024

Our Ref: FOI 365

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in relation to Direct Payments**

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 14 November 2024.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Finance & Estates 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) 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

I would be grateful if you could provide the following details regarding the use of prepaid cards in relation to direct payments by your authority:

- Q1. Does your authority use prepaid cards for managing direct payments and/or Appointee ship and Deputyship?***
- Q2. If yes, please provide details of the company or provider supplying these prepaid cards.***
- Q3. What is the start date and the end date of your current contract with the prepaid card provider?***

A1-3. In response to questions 1 to 3, the Trust do not utilise prepaid cards for any aspect of the Organisations business and therefore do not have any information to provide.