



13 October 2025

Our Ref: FOI 1413

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in relation to Hospital Bed Occupancy and Care Package Delays**

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 22 September 2025.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Primary Care and Older Peoples Service 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. *The number of hospital beds within the catchment area (20min drive as show on map provided) and the wider SEHSC trust currently occupied by patients who have been assessed as medically fit for discharge and who are in receipt of an at-home care package but cannot be discharged because their home requires adaptations which are not yet in place.*

A1. Within the Trust catchment area, across the three acute hospital sites, as of 22/09/2025 there were no hospital beds occupied by patients assessed as medically fit for discharge but could not be discharged because their home adaptations were not yet in place.

Q2. *The number of hospital beds within the catchment area (20min drive as show on map provided) and the wider SEHSC trust currently occupied by patients who have been assessed as medically fit for discharge but are awaiting the commencement of an at-home care package.*

A2. Within Trust catchment area, across the three acute hospital sites, as of 22/09/2025 there was one patient, who was delayed awaiting the commencement of an at-home care package.