



22 August 2025

Our Ref: FOI 1305

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in relation to Accommodation used by Social Services**

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 28 July 2025.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Children's Services and Social Care Directorate and is attached in Appendix A.

Please note that in relation to the names of the accommodation providers, this information is exempt under FOI Section 38 Health and safety. (1) Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to — (a) endanger the physical or mental health of any individual, or (b) endanger the safety of any individual.

The Trust is unable to provide this information as this is exempt from release for health and safety reasons, due to the risk of endangering the safety of the young people and staff residing at this accommodation. The Trust is mindful of its duty of care in protecting service users and staff and considers this information to be exempt from release into the public domain under section 38 of the FOI Act (Health and Safety exemption).

This is a qualified exemption and so a Public Interest Test was carried out to decide if the information should be released or not. Having weighed up the factors for and against release, it was decided to withhold this information because the disclosure of such information would, or would be likely to:

Section 38(1) - 'Health & Safety'

- (a) Endanger the physical or mental health of any individual, or
- (b) Endanger the safety of any individual.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this statement acts as a Refusal Notice in respect of the information relating to the names of the accommodation providers.

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

In relation to B&B (Bed and Breakfast), long-term rental and hotel accommodation used by Social Services to accommodate both those under-18 receiving care and staff over the last five years broken down by constituency, please outline:

Q1. The nightly rates agreed?

A1. Please see Table 1 for the nightly rates agreed.

Table 1

Provider	Nightly Rate
Accommodation 1	£115
Accommodation 2	£131
Accommodation 3	£60
Accommodation 4	£70 per night (for 17 Nights) £94 per night (for 12 Nights)
Accommodation 5	£50
Accommodation 6	£138
Accommodation 7	£140
Accommodation 8	£70
Accommodation 9	£99
Accommodation 10	£43
Accommodation 11	£18.50
Accommodation 12	1 Bed Property £1052.30 pcm*
	2 Bed Property £1136.37 pcm
	3 Bed Property £1248.41 pcm

*Per Calendar Month

Q2. The overall annual cost per provider?

A2. Please see Table 2 for the overall cost per provider.

Table 2

Provider	Annual Cost
Accommodation 1	£3,795
Accommodation 2	£4,061
Accommodation 3	£11,760
Accommodation 4	£2,318
Accommodation 5	£9,900
Accommodation 6	£966
Accommodation 7	£420
Accommodation 8	£1,750
Accommodation 9	£99
Accommodation 10	£86
Accommodation 11	£92.50

Accommodation 12	£40,324.51
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Q3. The number of nights used broken down by year for 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 1st January 2025-31st May 2025 and the number of nights used in each provider.

A3. Please see Table 3 for the number of nights used by provider.

Table 3

Provider	No. of Nights 2020	No. of Nights 2021	No. of Nights 2022	No. of Nights 2023	No. of Nights 2024	No. of Night 2025
Accommodation 1				33		
Accommodation 2				31		
Accommodation 3				140	56	
Accommodation 4				29		
Accommodation 5				198		
Accommodation 6				7		
Accommodation 7					3	
Accommodation 8				25		
Accommodation 9					1	
Accommodation 10			2			
Accommodation 11			5			
Accommodation 12	670	1645	4895	9750	16470	6450

Q4. Please also provide separately how many nights were spent in each constituency in NI, or the country depending on the accommodation.

A4. Please see Table 4 for the number of nights in each constituency in Northern Ireland, or Country.

01/01/2020 to 31/05/2025	
Constituency	Total No. of Nights
Lagan Valley	722
Belfast South	11,674
South Down	196
North Antrim	3
London, England	1
North Down	1,278
South Antrim	5
Belfast West	13,202
Belfast East	8,841
Belfast North	4,488