

3 March 2017

Our Ref: RFI 19609

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in Relation to Acupuncture Services**

I am writing to confirm that the South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust (the Trust) has now completed its search for the information relating to the above which you requested on 7 February 2017.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by Hospital Services Directorate and is attached in Appendix A.

Under the terms of the legislation, if you are unhappy with this response you have the right to seek a review within the Trust in the first instance. If you wish to do so, please write to me at the address below.

If after such a review you are still unhappy with the response, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner who will undertake an independent review. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, SK9 5AF.

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

**Laura Algie
Senior Manager
Risk Management &
Governance Department**

Q1. *How much money was spent on acupuncture services in the financial years 2013-14, 2014-15, and 2015-16?*

A1. Nil.

Q2. *How many referrals for acupuncture services were made in each of those years (if possible, broken down by initial consultation and follow-up consultations)?*

A2. None, as there is no acupuncture services provided within the Trust's surgery department.

Q3. *For which conditions were patients referred to acupuncture services in each of those years (with numbers per condition, if possible)?*

A3. As above.

Q4. *Do you have a written policy on the funding of acupuncture services? If so, please provide a copy.*

A4. No, the Trust does not hold any written policy on funding of acupuncture services.

Q5. *Do you have any contracts with acupuncture providers to whom you may refer patients? If so, please (i) confirm with whom you have contracts and (ii) provide copies of the contracts.*

A5. No the Trust does not have any contracts with any service providers for acupuncture.