

8 May 2017

Our Ref: RFI 19841

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in Relation to the Number of Pharmacist, Pharmacy Technicians
and Pharmacy Assistants Employed on Temporary Contracts etc**

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 12 March 2017.

A response to Questions 1-3 has been provided by Woman & Acute Child Health Directorate and is attached in Appendix A. The Trust is unable to provide you with information in respect of Questions 4-8 and the reason for this is outlined 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

**L McAree (Miss)
Head of Information Governance &
Directorate Support**

- Q1. *How many Pharmacists of all grades currently work for the Ulster Hospital Pharmacy Department and of these how many are employed on temporary contracts?*
- A2. *How many Pharmacy Technicians of all grades currently work for the Ulster Hospital Pharmacy Department and of these how many are employed on temporary contracts?*
- Q3. *How many ATO's (Pharmacy Assistants) of all grades currently work for the Ulster Hospital Pharmacy Department and of these how many are employed on temporary contracts?*

A1-3 Please see response provided in Tables 1 and 2 below:-

Table 1

JOB	Permanent
PHARMACIST	56
PHARMACY TECHNICIANS	28
PHARMACY ASSISTANTS	13
Grand Total	97
Figures include staff currently on maternity leave, career breaks and is the total headcount not wte. A number of staff particularly pharmacists work part time.	

Table 2

JOB	Temporary
PHARMACIST	4
PHARMACY TECHNICIANS	4
PHARMACY ASSISTANTS	5
Grand Total	13

Temporary posts employed to back fill maternity leave, career breaks and secondment opportunity for career development of ATOs who can undertake Student Technician Role. Pre-reg pharmacist post is a temporary 1 year training post.

- Q4. *For the last 10 years to date, how many Pharmacists of all grades who worked for the Ulster Hospital Pharmacy Department no longer do so and of these how many were employed on temporary contracts? Of those employed on temporary contracts, how many left the employment without being offered a permanent contract?*
- Q5. *For the last 10 years to date, how many Pharmacy Technicians of all grades who worked for the Ulster Hospital Pharmacy Department no longer do so and of these how many were employed on temporary contracts? Of those employed on temporary contracts, how many left the employment without being offered a permanent contract?*
- Q6. *For the last 10 years to date, how many ATO's (Pharmacy Assistants) of all grades who worked for the Ulster Hospital Pharmacy Department no longer do so and of these how many were employed on temporary contracts? Of those employed on temporary contracts, how many left the employment without being offered a permanent contract?*
- Q7. *For staff of all grades who worked for the Ulster Hospital Pharmacy Department and who no longer do so, please provide any reasons given by staff for leaving their employment.*
- Q8. *For the last 10 years to date, how many staff of all grades who worked for the South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust no longer do so and of these how many were employed on temporary contracts? Please also express these figures as a percentage of the total staff of all grades who were employed during each of the 10 year to date periods.*

Please note that as well as giving the information requested in a numerical format, all the requested statistics should be broken down into approximate Whole Time Equivalents for each piece of information requested.

- A4-8 In order to retrieve the information requested in Questions 4-8, a manual review of personal files is required as the information is not collated on our information systems.

The Trust considers that the cost of retrieving the information would be above the 'Appropriate Limit' as defined by the Freedom of Information Act 2000 under Section 12(1), so it will not be possible to make this information available to you.

12.-(1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this letter acts as a Refusal Notice.