

4 September 2017

Our Ref: RFI 21047

Dear Ms

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in Relation to Falls Prevention and Number of Patients
Diagnosed with Rheumatoid Arthritis Conditions**

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 3 August 2017.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Primary Care & Older People's 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

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

Enc

- Q1. *How many falls prevention teams does your trust operate?*
- A1. The Trust has one Falls Prevention Team which operates Trust wide.
- Q2. *How many of these falls prevention teams include a podiatrist? Please state the number of podiatrists employed within each falls prevention team.*
- A2. There are no podiatrists employed within the Falls Prevention Team.
- Q3. *How many of these falls prevention teams are led by a podiatrist?*
- A3. None.
- Q4. *If the trust does not operate any falls prevention teams, please provide a reason for this.*
- A4. Not applicable.
- Q5. *How many patients have been diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis conditions in your Trust in: (a) 2012/13, (b) 2013/14, (c) 2014/15, (d) 2015/16*
- A5. Please see Table 1 below which shows patients diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis. Please note that the figures below count the number of patients admitted during the period April 2012 to March 2016 with a diagnosis of Rheumatoid Arthritis. The patients are counted against their initial admission during this time period e.g. if a patient was admitted during 2012/2013 and also 2013/2014 they will be reported against 2012/2013. These figures do not include patients attending outpatient clinics.

Table 1

Year	Number
2012/2013	100
2013/2014	65
2014/2015	40
2015/2016	24

- Q6. *How many of those patients were referred to podiatry services following their rheumatological diagnoses in (i) 2012/13, (ii) 2013/14, (iii) 2014/15, (iv) 2015/16*
- A6. Please see Table 2 below which shows the number of patients with a diagnosis of rheumatoid arthritis referred to Podiatry Services. It is not possible to report on the figures provided in response to Q5 as this information is not held on a central information system. To obtain this information would require a manual review of the patient records.

This would exceed the 'Appropriate Limit' as defined by the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trust therefore exempts the release of this information under Section 12(1).

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.

Table 2

Year	Number
2012/2013	268
2013/2014	273
2014/2015	289
2015/2016	299