

10 September 2018

Our Ref: RFI 24680

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in relation to statistics for Sepsis deaths and staff response
times to Patient alarm buttons**

I am writing to confirm that the South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust (the Trust) has now completed its search for information relating to the above which you requested on 13 August 2018.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Planning, Performance & Informatics and Hospital Services Directorates and is attached in Appendix A.

You will note that some of the numbers have been masked in response to Question 1 and this is due to small numbers within a small geographical area.

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, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. 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

Victoria Smith
Information Governance Assistant

RFI 24680

Appendix A

Q1. In each of the past 5 years how many deaths have your hospitals recorded as being Sepsis?

A1. Please see information in Table 1 below. It should be noted that the number of deaths between 13/14-16/17 appear low compared to 17/18. During 16/17 new guidance was issued regarding coding of sepsis, as prior to this urosepsis and chest sepsis were coded as a localised infection.

Table 1

HOSPITAL	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
ARDS COMMUNITY HOSPITAL	0	0	<10	<10	<10
DOWNE HOSPITAL	<10	<10	<10	<10	13
LAGAN VALLEY HOSPITAL	<10	<10	<10	<10	28
ULSTER HOSPITAL	75	73	65	89	159
Sum:	84	89	77	100	202

Q2. New technology within hospitals makes it possible to determine response times of staff responding to patient alarm buttons. Having observed staff simply enter patient rooms and switch off these buttons without responding to the need raised please provide:

Details for each of the past 2 years of the response times to:

a) patient call buttons

b) emergency manually operated buttons (including manually operated crash buttons) and

c) emergency buttons automatically tripped

d) any other patient room alarms that are recorded?

A2. New modern systems may have the capacity to record this information. At this time the Trust systems are not able to record the information you have requested.