

18 September 2018

Our Ref: RFI 24795

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in relation to delayed discharges due to lack of available beds in care homes**

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 20 August 2018.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Nursing, Primary Care & Older People Directorate and is attached in Appendix A.

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

Q1. What is the financial cost incurred by the Trust year-by-year for the last 3 years, for patients who could not be discharged from hospital due to there not being available beds in care homes for the patient to continue their recovery?

A1. We do not hold financial information relating to delayed discharge as a result of care home beds being unavailable therefore we have based the cost in Table 1 below on the following assumptions:

- Speciality Costing Schedules for 2015/16 & 2016/17 (2017/18 Speciality Costing Schedules are not available so 2016/17 costing has been used 2017/18)
- An average of Ulster Geriatric & General Medicine bed day less theatre and capital charges costs. All other inputs such as medical and drug costs are assumed to remain the same.
- This average cost per day does not make an allowance for marginal cost that would be associated with this type of patient.

Table 1

Financial Year	SET (TOR) Patients Cost of Delayed Discharged
15/16	258,825
16/17	265,080
17/18	153,784

Q2. How many patients has this effected for each year for the last 3 years?

Q3. What is the total number nights per year whereby patients have had to remain in hospital due to the absence of beds in care homes?

A2-3. Please see Table 2 below.

Table 2

Financial Year	Number Patients Effected	Nights in Breach
15/16	284	1527
16/17	348	1494
17/18	247	1017