

11 May 2018

Our Ref: RFI 23244

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in Relation to MRI Scanners**

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 17 April 2018. This includes an FOI response to the first and second set of questions.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the 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

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

Enc

Question Set 1

I have a few questions on MRI scanners, in respect of which I am requesting your response under the Freedom of Information Act. For each scanner operated anywhere by your Trust:-

Q1. Manufacturer?

A1. Philips and Siemens.

Q2. Model?

A2. Philips 1.5T Achieva and Siemens Aera 1.5T.

Q3. Software version?

A3. Siemens – E11.

Q4. Do your scanners have fast T1 mapping capacity (e.g. Myomaps, cardiac quant or cardioMaps)?

A4. No.

Q5. Located in which hospital within Trust?

A5. Located within the Ulster Hospital, Dundonald.

Q6. Acquisition year?

A6. 2009 and 2013.

Q7. How it was financed (owned by Trust, leased or held under Managed Equipment Service ('MES') arrangements)?

A7. The scanners are owned by the Trust.

Q8. If MES, which provider do you use?

A8. Not applicable.

Q9. What year will the equipment be replaced?

A9. Funding permitting, every 7 years as per Royal College of Radiologist (RCR) Guidelines. However this is not always possible.

Q10. Is maintenance done by the Trust, by the Manufacturer or by 3rd party provider?

A10. Siemens – OEM
Philips – Third Party

Q11. If 3rd party provider which provider do you use?

A11. Althea (formerly Asterol).

Q12. What are the operational hours of the equipment?

A12. System 1
Mon-Thursday 8am-8pm; Friday 9am-5pm; Sat & Sun 9am-1pm

System 2
Mon-Thursday 8am-8pm; Friday 9am-5pm

Question Set 2

Additionally I have a second FOI request I am also requesting under the freedom of information the following information:

Q1. Numbers of Patients Having the following examinations:

A1. For the period April 2017-March 2018

Procedure	Number of Patients
MR Liver	Included in figures below for liver and spleen
MR Liver & Spleen	168 examinations
MR Liver with Contrast	138 examinations
MR Abdomen	437 examinations
MR Abdomen with Contrast	277 examinations
Fibroscan	NA
Ferriscan (if used)	NA

Q2a. How much does the Trust charge for each of the procedures above.

A2a. The above procedures are regionally funded; therefore tertiary referrals are not recharged.

Q2b. does this cost include a radiological report -

A2b. Not applicable.

Q3a. How much does the Trust purchase MR Contrast Agents for?

3a. The Trust purchases MR Contract Agents for £2,000 per month.

Q3b. What brand do the Trust use.

3b. The Trust uses the following:-

- Gadovist
- Prohance
- Primovist