

28 June 2018

Our Ref: RFI 23790

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in Relation to Prices Paid for Homecare Services**

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 6 June 2018.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Planning, Performance and Informatics 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

**Catherine Treanor
Information Governance Assistant**

Q1. We ask the Trust to provide the prices it pays to independent and voluntary sector homecare providers for the provision of regulated social care services delivered to people aged 65 years or above in their own home, during a seven day period which includes Monday, 23rd April 2018 (the “Reference Period”).

Figures requested in items ‘a’ to ‘c’, below, should be expressed in pounds and pence per hour, as follows:

Q1a. The lowest rate per hour paid to any individual homecare provider during the Reference Period;

A1a. £13.91

Q1b. The highest rate per hour paid to any individual homecare provider during the Reference Period;

A1b. £13.91

Q1c. The average (“arithmetic mean”) price per hour paid to all homecare providers for all hours of homecare services purchased during the Reference Period;

A1c. £13.91

Q1d. The total hours of homecare purchased from all homecare providers during the Reference Period;

A1d. The total hours of homecare purchased from all homecare providers during the week commencing 23rd April 18 was 36,315.

Q1e. The Trust’s total spend on homecare services purchased from all homecare providers during the Reference Period;

A1e. The Trust’s total spend on homecare services purchased from all homecare providers during the week commencing 23rd April 18 was £504,505.

Q1f. In relation to contracts held with independent and voluntary sector homecare providers:

i. Whether the Trust has imposed any requirement that providers pay their workers an hourly rate above the prevailing National Minimum Wage (including the National Living Wage);

ii. The maximum rate specified, if the answer to question f.i. (above) applies.

A1f. No, the Trust has not imposed any requirement as outlined above.