

21 November 2016

Our Ref: RFI 18725

Dear

Freedom of Information Act 2000 re Foreign Objects removed from patients

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 24 October 2016.

A response to each of the questions raised 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

Q1. *I would like to know how many foreign objects were removed from patients in the last five years. Please include a breakdown of what these objects are and where they were removed from. How many of these foreign objects were accidentally left inside patients during operations or procedures before being removed?*

A1. Please see information requested detailed in Table 1 below.

Table 1

Year 2011 - 2016

Number	Type	Removed from	Reason
0-5	Needle	Groin	During operation – removed same admission
0-5	Swab	Abdomen	During operation – removed same admission