

11 November 2016

Our Ref: RFI 18476

Dear

Freedom of Information Act 2000 re range of questions for South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust

I am writing to confirm that the South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust (the Trust) is now in a position to provide responses to questions 1, 2, 5, 12, 13, 16, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27 and 29 which are attached in Appendix A.

A response to questions 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 24, 28 and 30 will be released to you as soon as possible.

To enable us to answer question 8 appropriately we would appreciate if you could please provide us with a contact number so we can discuss the query with you.

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 Lynda McAree, Head of Information Governance and Directorate Support, 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

Laura Algie
Senior Manager
Risk Management & Information
Governance Department

Q1. *Cost of tea and biscuits at meetings across the trust?*

A1. This information is not held by the Trust as Hospitality budget costs are not recorded to include the information requested.

Q2. *Cost of meals proved to trust staff?*

A2. A main meal average cost is £3.00, soup is £1.10 and a dessert can be between £0.60 - £1.00.

Q5. *The amount charged to staff for making private calls?*

A5. Zero cost.

Q12. *The number and cost of calls to speaking clocks?*

A12. BT only hold data back to 1st October 2015 and the cost is £6.36

Q13. *The number and cost of calls to premium lines?*

A13. BT only hold data back to 1st October 2015 and the cost is £0.16

Q16. *The cost of spending on credit cards and list each item purchased?*

A16. The Trust does not use credit cards for procurements.

Q20. *The number of children treated for eating disorders, and their ages?*

A20. This information is not held by the Trust. This information is available from the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust who run CAMHS.

Q21. *'Red lists' – lists of drugs which are approved for use but which are restricted due to their cost?*

A21 Definition of 'Red List'. The 'Red List' of medicines in Northern Ireland serves only to define those medicines that are considered so specialist that clinical and prescribing responsibility should lie only with specialists in secondary care (in terms of governance and safety). Inclusion on the red list does not imply the medicine has or has not been accepted for use via Managed Entry, does not imply endorsement of use, and does not take account of the cost implications of use of a particular medicine. The current Red/Amber lists are available to view on www.ipnsm.hscni.net.

Definition of 'approved for use'. "Approved for use" could mean "licensed in UK" or it could mean "commissioned for use" both of which are very different questions.

Definition of 'restricted': Many high cost drugs are considered to be 'restricted' but that does not mean they cannot be used – it just means that certain procedures (Individual Funding Requests or Cost Per Case requests) must be followed to justify their use on an individual patient basis. We are not aware of any medicines ever being made completely unavailable on the basis of list price alone (other than possibly the drug tariff blacklist – but that is a primary care issue only and is publicly available at <http://www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/services/2034.htm>). It is important to note that the NICE / SMC decisions that typically inform the managed entry process are based on clinical and cost-effectiveness rather than just cost alone.

The managed entry decisions website most likely gives the best approximation of what recent medicines are approved for use (or not) in Northern Ireland (and therefore within SE Trust) and how/if they are restricted in any way.

<http://niformulary.hscni.net/ManagedEntry/MEDecisions/Pages/default.aspx>

Q22. *Incentive schemes to encourage doctors not to prescribe antibiotics?*

A22. The Trust has no financial incentives relating to not prescribing antibiotics.

Q23. *The number of hospital meals binned every day and the cost of doing so?*

A23 The Trust has a 10% food waste target for patients, costing cannot be provided.

-4-

Q25. *The number of haunted hospital wards and rooms?*

A25. Inappropriate question.

Q26. *The dates and reasons why hospitals call pest control?*

A26. Please see enclosed document entitled Pest Control at SEHSC Trust for the period 2013 – 2015.

Q27. *The amount of money raised by the Trust for hospital car parking by patients?*

A27. Figures for 2015 / 2016 for visitors is £1,084K

Q29. *Amount owed to health boards by overseas patients not entitled to free treatment – breakdown of where they are from and how much they owe, how much written off?*

A29. This information is not held by the Trust. This information is held by the Health and Social Care Board (HSCB).