

22 January 2019

**Our Ref:** RFI 26678

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000  
Environmental Information Regulations 2004**

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 21 December 2018.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Hospital Services Directorate and is attached in Appendix A. You will note that some of the numbers have been masked in Answer 4a and this is due to small numbers within a small geographical area.

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](mailto: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 –Northern Ireland, 3rd Floor, 14 Cromac Place, Belfast, BT7 2JB. 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

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**Jane McCormick**  
**Information Governance Assistant**

***This request seeks information about decisions made under the National Health Service (Charges to Overseas Visitors) Regulations 2015 (the ‘2015 Regulations’), amended most recently by the National Health Service (Charges to Overseas Visitors) (Amendment) Regulations 2017. The Department of Health and Social Care has published national guidance on the implementation of the same entitled “Guidance on implementing the overseas visitor charging regulations” (May 2018).***

**Exemptions from charging for overseas visitors**

- Q1. For the years 2016 and 2017 (separately) the number of individuals who were deemed exempt from charges for NHS services (including those who were deemed exempt at a later point pursuant to Regulation 6A of the 2015 Regulations) provided pursuant to:**
- a) Regulation 9 (f) of the 2015 Regulations in total**
  - b) Regulation 9 (f) (i) (torture)**
  - c) Regulation 9 (f) (ii) (female genital mutilation)**
  - d) Regulation 9 (f) (iii) (domestic violence)**
  - e) Regulation 9 (f) (iv) (sexual violence)**

A1. The Trust does not record this information.

- Q2. For the years 2016 and 2017 (separately) the number of individuals deemed exempt from charges pursuant to:**
- a) Regulation 10 (2) of the 2015 Regulations in total**
  - b) Regulation 10 (2) (a) (IHS paid)**
  - c) Regulation 10 (2) (b) (an exemption from the IHS applies)**
  - d) Regulation 10 (2) (c) (a reduction or waiver from the IHS applies)**
  - e) Regulation 10 (2) (d) (a partial refund of the IHS has been made)**

A2. The Trust does not record this information.

- Q3. For the years 2016 and 2017 (separately) the number of individuals deemed exempt from charges pursuant to 10 (2) of the 2015 Regulations for whom the relevant period is:**
- a) As defined under Regulation 10 (1) (a) (the period of leave granted)**
  - b) As defined under Regulation 10 (1) (b) (extension of leave provisions)**

A3. No individuals were deemed exempt.

- Q4. For the years 2016 and 2017 (separately) the number of individuals deemed exempt (including those who were deemed exempt at a later point pursuant to Regulation 6 of the 2015 Regulations) from charges pursuant to:**
- a) Regulation 15 of the 2015 Regulations in total**

- A4a) >5 individuals (information recorded from June 2017 only).  
**b) Regulation 15 (a) and (aa) (those granted asylum and humanitarian protection and their dependents)**  
**c) Regulation 15 (b) and (ba) (those who have applied for asylum or humanitarian protection and their dependents)**  
**d) Regulation 15 (c) (those supported under s.95 Immigration and Asylum Act 1999)**  
**e) Regulation 15 (d) (i) (those supported under s.4 (2) Immigration and Asylum Act 1999)**  
**f) Regulation 15 (d) (iii) (those supported under Part 1 of the Care Act)**  
**g) Regulation 15 (e) (a child looked after by the local authority)**

A4b)-g) No individuals were deemed exempt.

**Q5. For the years 2016 and 2017 (separately) the number of individuals deemed exempt from charges pursuant to Regulation 16 (1) of the 2015 Regulations in total (please include those who were deemed exempt at a later point pursuant to Regulation 6).**

A5. 25 individuals (information recorded from June 2017 only).

**NHS Debts for charges for overseas visitors**

**Q6. For the years 2016 and 2017 (separately) the number of invoices for NHS debts for overseas visitors' charges which have been written off for accounting purposes.**

A6. 2016 – 15 invoices written off

2017 – 2 invoices written off

**Q7. For the years 2016 and 2017 (separately) what was the total sum of the debt for overseas visitors' charges that was written off for accounting purposes for each year within the Trust (at the rate charged to the Trust, that is, 75%)?**

A7. 2016 - £3106.51

2017 - £3593.23

**Q8. Of the debts written off for accounting purposes at question 6 above, what was the average debt?**

A8. 2016 – Average debt Value £207.11

2017 – Average Debt Value £1796.92