

24 April 2019

Our Ref: RFI 28006

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in relation to Heroin Substitute**

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 25 March 2019.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Adult Services and Prison Healthcare 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 –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

**Catherine Treanor
Information Governance Assistant**

Q1. Could you please provide me with figures to date of how many people are currently being prescribed a heroin substitute? (E.g. methadone, buprenorphine etc.)

A1. There are 98 people availing of Opiate Substitution.

Q2. How many people are currently on a waiting list to be prescribed a heroin substitute?

A2. The Trust does not have a waiting list for the Opiate Substitution.

Q3. How long is the current waiting list to be prescribed a heroin substitute?

A3. While the Trust does not hold a waiting list, it generally takes 4-6 weeks from the referral for Opiate Substitution to initiation of treatment.