

4 February 2020

**Our Ref:** RFI 32893

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000  
Information Requested in Relation to People who have been treated for  
Eating Disorders**

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 8 January 2020.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Adult Services & 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](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**

**Q1. Under Freedom of Information please provide me with details of the number of people who have been treated for eating disorders by the trust since 2014.**

A1. The South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust's specialist provision for patients with this condition is provided by the Adult Eating Disorders Service within the Belfast Health & Social Care Trust. This is a long-standing contractual arrangement between both Trusts. There are a number of patients with primary eating disorders that are admitted directly into the Trusts acute mental health inpatient wards by arrangement.

Those patients who are treated by the Eating Disorders Service within Belfast Trust and those admitted in a planned way directly into South Eastern Trust mental health inpatient wards for the years requested, have been outlined within the table below.

Adult Eating Disorders Service: South Eastern Trust treatment episodes

Referrals by Year	Within BHSCT	Within SEHSCT	Total
2014	21	3	24
2015	42	6	48
2016	31	5	36
2017	38	2	40
2018	33	5	38
2019	31	2	33

A number of people who will have a diagnosis of Eating Disorder and who attend Community Services without requiring onward referral to the Belfast Trust for specialist treatment and care. It is not possible to quantify those patients as our information systems are not sufficiently developed to allow us to do so.