

17 September 2020

Our Ref: RFI 35481

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in Relation to Institutional Abuse Investigated by the Trust**

I am writing to confirm that the South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust (the Trust) has now completed its search for information relating to above which you requested on 19 August 2020.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Nursing, Primary Care and Older People 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

Rebecca Manning
Information Governance Assistant

Q1. *In the last three years how many times have you investigated an allegation of institutional abuse at a care setting?*

A1. In the past three years there have been no Adult Protection investigations solely relating to institutional abuse within care homes in the Trust area.

Notwithstanding this, the Trust has conducted a number of Adult Protection investigations within a range of different care settings relating to the various forms of abuse as detailed in the Adult Safeguarding policy and procedures. While there may have been several investigations underway in a care setting they have not been treated as institutional abuse.

Q2. *What is the name of the care setting?*

Q3. *Was the allegation of institutional abuse upheld?*

A. As there have been no investigations within a care setting Q2 & Q3 are N/A.