

26 November 2020

Our Ref: RFI 36104

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in Relation to Waiting Times for First Consultation Appointments**

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 5 October 2020. Please accept our sincere apologies for the delay in responding to you. Thank you for your patience.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Hospital Services 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. Can you give the duration a patient referred on 5th September 2020 will expect to wait for a first consultation for each of the following, broken down by urgent and routine appointments.

a. Orthopaedics by body part, including;

- **Spine**
- **Shoulder**
- **Upper limb**
- **Foot**
- **Hip**
- **OA knee**
- **Soft tissue knee**
- **Paeds**

b. General Surgery

c. ENT

d. Gynaecology

e. Ophthalmology

f. Neurology

g. Gastroenterology

h. Urology

i. Cardiology

j. Dermatology

k. Respiratory Medicine

l. Immunology

m. Endocrinology

n. Plastic Surgery

o. Oral Surgery

p. Haematology

q. Rheumatology

r. Dietitian Service

s. Genitourinary Medicine

t. Geriatric Medicine

u. Psychiatry

A1. Please see Table 1.

Table 1

Service	Waiting Time – Urgent Appointments	Waiting Time – Routine Appointments
Paediatrics (Paeds is a very generic service area, the Trust split by Paed Surgery, Medical, Asthma, Allergy & Epilepsy)	36 Weeks	60+ Weeks
General Surgery	41 Weeks	114 Weeks
ENT	34 Weeks	195 Weeks
Gynaecology	34 Weeks	157 Weeks
Neurology (broken down into sub speciality, General, Seizure, headache)	233 Weeks	289 Weeks
Gastroenterology	89 Weeks	316 Weeks
Urology	8 Weeks	155 Weeks
Cardiology	42 Weeks	87 Weeks
Dermatology	68 Weeks	240 Weeks
Respiratory Medicine	68 Weeks	240 Weeks
Plastic Surgery	35 Weeks	186 Weeks
Oral Surgery	185 Weeks	198 Weeks
Haematology	9 Weeks	76 Weeks
Rheumatology	158 Weeks	182 Weeks
Psychiatry	Urgent – 10 Working days of referral Emergency – 2 Hours of Referral	Maximum wait of up to 9 Weeks
General Medicine	45 Weeks	52 Weeks
Dietician Service	Awaiting return from Service, this information will be provided to you as soon as possible.	

Note: Endocrinology is included within General Medicine.

The following Services listed are not provided by the Trust:

- Orthopaedics
- Immunology
- Genitourinary Medicine
- Ophthalmology, however this service may be provided by the Belfast Health & Social Care Trust (Belfast Trust). Should you wish to pursue this request I would suggest you contact the Belfast Trust on publicliaison@belfasttrust.hscni.net