

14 July 2021

Our Ref: RFI 38840

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in relation to Data Analytics, Predictive Analytics and Artificial
Intelligence Systems used in Children's Services**

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 30 April 2021. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to your request as the as the Information Governance Department is dealing with a large number of requests for information, including a backlog of requests as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic which had a major impact across services. Thank you for your patience and understanding on this matter.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Children's Services and Social work 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

Joyce Batch
Information Governance Officer

Please can you supply the following information:

- Q1. Have data analytics, predictive analytics and/or artificial intelligence systems been previously used to support children's service provision? Please indicate which of these, if any, were in use.**
- Q2. Are data analytics, predictive analytics and/or artificial intelligence systems currently being used to support children's service provision? Please indicate which of these, if any, are in use.**
- Q3. Are you intending to use data analytics, predictive analytics and/or artificial intelligence systems to support children's service provision? Please indicate which of these, if any, you are intending to use in the future.**
- Q4. Details of any briefing notes, reports, or summaries relating to the use or potential use of data analytics, predictive analytics and or artificial intelligence systems to support children's service provision.**
- Q5. Any meeting minutes, reports or presentation materials on the efficacy or impact of data analytics, predictive analytics and or artificial intelligence systems to support children's service provision.**
- Q6. Details of any third-party consultants or suppliers of data analytics, predictive analytics or artificial intelligence systems including any contracts, memoranda of understanding, or other agreements (which may include but not exclusively data sharing agreements)**

Please note:

By data analytics we mean the processing of families' data to draw conclusions about the information it contains and to uncover patterns and insights from it. This may be via computer packages or dashboards.

By predictive analytics, we mean using families' data to create predictive models that can be used for risk assessment, scoring systems or to inform decision-making.

By artificial intelligence/algorithmic automated systems we mean the process of using families' data to develop systems that make decisions by automated means. This includes tasks normally requiring human intelligence, such as speech recognition and decision-making.

A1- 6 The Trust have not used, do not currently use and have no current plans to introduce data analytics, predictive analytics and/or artificial intelligence systems to support children's service provision. Therefore, the Trust does not hold the information requested in Questions 4 to 6.