

28 July 2021

**Our Ref:** RFI 40046

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000  
Information in Relation to Payments to Independent Health Care Providers**

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 20 July 2021.

A response to the question raised has been provided by the Finance and Estates 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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**Joyce Batch**  
**Information Governance Officer**

***I am writing to make a request for all the information to which I am entitled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.***

***Please provide me with the :-***

***Q1. The funding (Funding amount) provided to Independent Health Care Providers IHCP (Pauline Shepard) by the South Eastern Trust for the years 2020 & 2021?***

***I would like the above information to be in the form of an email. I trust you can send this to me or alternatively I could arrange to collect it from your office as a paper copy. If this request is too wide or unclear, I would be grateful if you could contact me as I understand that under the FOI Act, you are required to advise and assist the requestor.***

***If any of this information is already in the public domain, please can you direct me to it, with page references and URL's if necessary?***

***If the release of this information is prohibited on the grounds of breach of confidence, I ask that you supply me with copies of the confidentiality agreement and remind you that information should not be treated as confidential if such an agreement has not been signed. I understand that you are required to respond to my request within 20 working days after you receive this letter. I would be grateful if you could confirm in writing that you have received this request.***

**A1. The Trust does not make payments to Independent Health Care Providers. Therefore no payments were made by the Trust for the years 2020 and 2021.**