

30 July 2021

Our Ref: RFI 39840

Dear

Freedom of Information Act 2000

I am writing to confirm that the South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust (the Trust) has now completed its search for information relating to patient admissions with newly-occurring diabetes with or after a COVID-19 diagnosis which you requested on 5 July 2021.

A response to the question raised has been provided by the Planning, Performance and Informatics 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. Would you be able to provide me with as up-to-date data as possible on the number of patients admitted to hospital with newly-occurring diabetes – their first diagnosis of diabetes – with or after a covid-19 diagnosis since the start of the pandemic?

A1. The information requested is not held on a central information system at patient level. To obtain this information would require an extensive manual review of records. This would exceed the 'Appropriate Limit' as defined by the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trust therefore exempts the release of this information under Section 12(1).12.-(1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this letter acts as a Refusal Notice.