

Information Governance

26 November 2021

Our Ref: RFI 41490

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in relation to Ulster Hospital Admissions/deaths and their Covid-19 Vaccination Status**

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 25 October 2021. 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 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. Please provide admission numbers in to the Ulster Hospital for the last 5 years, 2016-2020 and the current year so far.

A1. Please see Table 1.

Table 1

Year of Admission	Number of Admissions
2016	21,954
2017	28,271
2018	27,846
2019	27,524
2020	24,302
2021 (To end of September)	20,400

Please note Table 1 excludes maternity or paediatric wards and specialties on admission. Excludes those discharged from virtual wards. Includes Intended Day Cases or Regular Sequences that go on to have a length of spell greater than 0.

Q2. Of those who died of any causes this year, how many had received any covid-19 vaccines and how many were unvaccinated.

Q3. Of those admitted to the ulster hospital in 2021, how many received any covid-19 vaccines.

A2&3. Following a search of our paper and electronic records, I have established that the information you requested is not centrally recorded by the Trust. To respond to this request would require a manual review of Trust records to collate, analyse and verify the accuracy of raw information provided to the Trust.

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.

However the information you request may be held by the Northern Ireland Statistics & Research Agency (NISRA). NISRA are the official source for publication of accurate data. If you wish to pursue your request I would suggest you contact NISRA on demography@nisra.gov.uk