

19 June 2023

Our Ref: RFI 50892

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in Relation to Professional Standards Authority**

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 queried on 31 May 2023 following a response issued to you on 26 May 2023.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Allied Health Professionals 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



Caroline Degans
Information Governance Officer

Q1. Thank you for your response.

However, from your response, it is unclear what distinction the Trust is making regarding the HCPC and PSA. The HCPC is an organisation which regulates health, psychological and care professionals in the UK; however, overseen by the PSA; thus, staff should be registered on a PSA register - you suggest this is not the case. Please clarify this distinction.

Furthermore, please clarify why information regarding UK-SBA registration for behaviour support staff is not held, as the UK-SBA is the only register within the UK which promotes the ethical and effective application of behaviour analysis.

- A1. The PSA (Professional Standards Authority) works with organisations that register and regulate people working in health and social care. AHPs are not directly registered with the PSA.

There is no requirement for behaviour support staff to be registered with the UK-SBA register as a requirement to practice or as a condition of their employment. The Trust only hold details of registers for which there is a statutory requirement to practice.