

04 July 2023

**Our Ref:** RFI 50414

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000  
Information in Relation to Staff Sexual Impropriety & Childbirth for Women  
over 40.**

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 12 April 2023. Please accept my apologies for the delay in repsonding to your request, thank you for your understanding and forbearance.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Surgery & Elective, Maternity and Paediatrics 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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**Caroline Degans**  
**Information Governance Officer**

**Q1. In the calendar year 2022, did any female staff members make allegations of sexual impropriety, sexual assault or sexual harassment against fellow staff members at the Trust? Can you please quantify how many complaints of this nature were made?**

A1. No, for the calendar year 2022, no female staff member made an allegation of sexual impropriety, sexual assault or sexual harassment against fellow staff members within the Trust.

**Q2. In the calendar year 2021, did any female staff members make allegations of sexual impropriety, sexual assault or sexual harassment against fellow staff members at the Trust? Can you please quantify how many complaints of this nature were made?**

A2. Yes, there were less than 5 allegations of sexual impropriety, sexual assault or sexual harassment.

Please note, where an answer is between 1-4 as above, in line with Trust policy, it is given as less than 5 to reduce any risk of identification of individuals involved.

**Q3. In the calendar year 2020, did any female staff members make allegations of sexual impropriety, sexual assault or sexual harassment against fellow staff members at the Trust? Can you please quantify how many complaints of this nature were made?**

A3. Yes, there were less than 5 allegations of sexual impropriety, sexual assault or sexual harassment.

Please note, where an answer is between 1-4 as above, in line with Trust policy, it is given as less than 5 to reduce any risk of identification of individuals involved.

**Q4. In 2022, how many women, if any, of 50 and over gave birth in any facility in your Trust? Please specify ages if possible.**

A4. In the year 2022, no women of 50 and over gave birth in any facility within the Trust.

**Q5. In 2022, how many women, if any, of 45-49 inclusive gave birth in any facility in your Trust? Please specify ages if possible.**

A5. In the year 2022, 12 women aged between 45-49 gave birth at a facility within the Trust.

**Q6. In 2022, how many women, if any, of 40-44 inclusive gave birth in any facility in your Trust?**

- A6. In the year 2022, 185 women aged between 40-44 gave birth at a facility within the Trust.
- Q7. *In 2021, how many women, if any, of 50 and over gave birth in any facility in your Trust? Please specify ages if possible.***
- A7. In the year 2021, no women of 50 and over gave birth in any facility within the Trust.
- Q8. *In 2021, how many women, if any, of 45-49 inclusive gave birth in any facility in your Trust? Please specify ages if possible.***
- A8. In the year 2021, 6 women aged between 45-49 gave birth at a facility within the Trust.
- Q9. *In 2021, how many women, if any, of 40-44 gave birth in any facility in your Trust?***
- A9. In the year 2021, 197 women aged between 40-44 gave birth at a facility within the Trust.
- Q10. *In 2020, how many women, if any, of 50 and over gave birth in any facility in your trust? Please specify ages if possible.***
- A10. In the year 2020, no women of 50 and over gave birth in any facility within the Trust.
- Q11. *In 2020, how many women, if any, of 45 - 49 inclusive gave birth in any facility in your trust? Please specify ages if possible.***
- A11. In the year 2020, 14 women aged between 45-49 gave birth at a facility within the Trust.
- Q12. *In 2020, how many women, if any, of 40 - 44 inclusive over gave birth in any facility in your trust?***
- A12. For the year 2020, 180 women aged between 40-44 gave birth at a facility within the Trust.