

27 July 2023

**Our Ref:** RFI 51901

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000  
Information in Relation to Trust Employed Dentists.**

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 29 June 2023.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Surgery, Elective Care, Maternity & 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. Please provide numbers of Trust employed dentists working in Hospital dental services within the South Eastern Trust, broken down by each grade, and at which location they are based.**

A1. The number of Trust employed dentists working in Hospital Dental Services are:

4.6 whole time equivalent (wte) Consultants, who are dual trained in both medicine and dentistry in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS) (including locum cover)

5 Specialty Doctors, dental trained.

2 Clinical Fellows, dual trained.

The team cover sessions in the Ulster Hospital, Downe Hospital and they also attend peripheral clinics in Craigavon and Antrim Area Hospitals.

**Q2. The number of HDS vacancies per grade.**

A2. There is currently one Consultant vacancy, which is preparing to go to advert.