

08 February 2022

Our Ref: RFI 41836

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in relation to Hospital Discharges and availability of Community
Care Packages.**

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 16 November 2021. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to your request, due to the impact of Winter Pressures that the Trust is currently facing. Thank you for your understanding and forbearance of this matter

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Nursing, Primary Care and Older People 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. The number of people deemed medically fit to be discharged from hospital but there was no community care package in place, so they were discharged to a care home in the last financial year.

A1. In the last financial year there were 87 people.

Q2. The number of people in care homes on 1st November 2021 after they had been deemed medically fit for discharge but there was no community care package in place.

A2. On the 1st November 2021 there were 22 people.

Q3. The longest time anyone has spent in a care home as of 1st November 2021 after they were deemed medically fit for discharge from hospital but a community care package was not in place, so they were discharged to a care home.

A3. As of the 1st November 2021 the longest time was 209 days.

Q4. The total number of people deemed medically fit to be discharged from hospital who were discharged home with an incomplete community care package in place in the last financial year.

A4. The information requested is not held on a central information system. To obtain this information would require a 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.

Q5. The total number of people at home without a complete community care package as of 1st November 2021 after they were deemed medically fit for discharge from hospital.

A5. As of the 1st November 2021 there were 24 people.

Q6. The total number of people at home without a complete community care package as of 1st November 2021.

A6. As of the 1st November 2021 there were 150 people.

Q7. *The longest time a person has been living at home with an incomplete community care package as of 1st November 2021.*

A7. As of the 1st November 2021 the longest time was 28 weeks plus 5 days.