

12 January 2022

Our Ref: RFI 41934

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in relation to Hospitalised Covid-19 Inpatients & the Number of Ventilators.**

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 22 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 Hospital Services 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. How many vaccinated patients with I) one and ii) two doses of an approved vaccine have been admitted to hospital with Covid-19?

A1. The Trust does not centrally record the vaccination status of people who have been admitted into hospital with Covid-19; therefore we are unable to provide this information. 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.

Q2. How many of those patients have died from covid-19 by month?

A2. 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.

Q3. How many ventilators have been available to your hospitals since the beginning of the pandemic by month and of your hospital has made any requests for further ventilators and if those requests have been approved or denied?

A3. Please refer to Attachment 1 – Ventilators available to the Trust.