

14 July 2022

Our Ref: RFI 44954

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in Relation to the Number of People who died by Suicide within
the Trust Area**

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 9 June 2022. Please accept my apologies for the short delay in responding to your request. Thank you for your patience and forbearance.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Adult Services & Prison Healthcare 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 in your trust area who died by suicide (including self-inflicted injury and undetermined intent) from 2016 - 2021

Please then breakdown the above requested figure as follows:

- **Year**
- **Male/Female**
- **Age brackets 5-12, 13-18, 19-24, 25-40, 40>**
- **Number of those deceased who were prescribed SSRIs within 6 months at time of death**
- **Number of those deceased who were in care of and/or known to mental health services at the Trust at their time of death**

A1. Please see Attachment 1 - Number of Suicide Deaths within the Trust Area.

Please note that the reporting timeframe in Attachment 1 is the full year from 1st April to 31st March that the Trust have received from the Police Service of Northern Ireland, for the Trust's catchment area.

The Trust is unable to provide a breakdown of the number of those deceased who were prescribed anti-depressants as this information is not held on the Trust's centrally recorded system.

You will note that some of the numbers within Attachment 1 have been masked. The numbers have been masked because there are a small number of individuals within a small geographical area and therefore the individual could be identified. Potential Identification of the individual may therefore lead to the disclosure of their personal information.

This information relates to personal information, it is exempt from release under Section 40 (2) and 40 (3) (a) of the Freedom of Information Act, 2000.

Section 40 (personal information) states:-

(2)Any information to which a request for information relates is also exempt information if—

(a) it constitutes personal data which not fall within subsection (1), and
(b) the first, second or third condition below is satisfied.

(3)The first condition is that the disclosure of the information to a member of the public otherwise than under this Act—

(a) would contravene any of the data protection principles.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this statement acts as a Refusal Notice for the masked numbers in Attachment 1.