

Information Governance

09 June 2022

Our Ref: RFI 43014

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in Relation to Accommodation Arrangements for 16-17 Year olds
from January 2021 to December 2021**

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 8 February 2022. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to your request. This delay was due to the impact of Winter Pressures on services across the Trust. Thank you for your understanding and forbearance of this matter.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Children's Services & Social Work 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 Officer

Q1. How many 16 year and 17 year old young people have been assessed by your Trust following a presentation as homeless in each month detailed above?

A1. Please see Table 1.

Table 1

| Date | No. of 16 & 17 Year Olds Assessed by the Trust following a presentation of homeless |
|----------------|--|
| January 2021 | <5 17 Year olds |
| February 2021 | <5 17 year olds |
| March 2021 | <5 17 year olds |
| April 2021 | <5 17 year olds |
| May 2021 | 0 |
| June 2021 | 0 |
| July 2021 | <5 17 year olds 0 |
| August 2021 | <5 16 & 17 year olds 0 |
| September 2021 | <5 17 year olds 0 |
| October 2021 | <5 16 & 17 year olds 0 |
| November 2021 | <5 17 year olds 0 |
| December 2021 | < 5 17 year olds |

You will note that the number of 16 & 17 year olds assessed following a presentation of homeless within Table 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 number of 16 & 17 year olds within Table 1.

Q2. *In respect of these cases how many of the 16 year olds were provided with accommodation under Article 21 of the Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 following assessment?*

A2. There were no 16 year old children provided with accommodation under Article 21 of the Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 following assessment.

Q3. *In respect of these cases how many of the 16 year olds were termed to be children in need for the purposes of the Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 following assessment?*

A3. There were <5 16 year old children who were termed to be children in need for the purposes of the Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 following assessment.

Q4. *In respect of these cases how many of the 17 year olds were provided with accommodation under Article 21 of the Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 following assessment?*

A4. There were <5 17 year old children provided with accommodation under Article 21 of the Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 following assessment.

Q5. *In respect of these cases how many of the 17 year olds were termed to be children in need for the purposes of the Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 following assessment?*

A5. There were 12 17 year old children who were termed to be children in need for the purposes of the Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 following assessment.

Q6. In respect of the cases above how many of the 16 year olds were referred to the Northern Ireland Housing Executive?

A6. There were <5 16 year old children who were referred to the Northern Ireland Housing Executive.

Q7. In respect of the cases above how many of the 17 year olds were referred to the Northern Ireland Housing Executive?

A7. There were 12 17 year old children who were referred to the Northern Ireland Housing Executive.

Q8. What is the budget within your Trust for providing accommodation to homeless 16 and 17 year olds?

A8. The Trust does not have a budget for providing accommodation to homeless 16 and 17 year old children as this is provided by Supporting People/Northern Ireland Housing Executive.

Q9. What Trust facilities are available for providing accommodation to homeless 16 and 17 year olds within your Trust?

A9. The Trust does not have facilities available for providing accommodation to homeless 16 and 17 year old children as this is provided by Supporting People/Northern Ireland Housing Executive.

Q10. For each of the months above how many 16 and 17 year olds within your Trust were accommodated in Bed and Breakfast accommodation? Please provide a figure for the cost of this accommodation by month above.

A10. There were no 16 and 17 year old children within the Trust accommodated in Bed and Breakfast accommodation.

Q11. How many 16 and 17 year olds presented to your Trust after having left the family home but were not assessed as being homeless?

A11. There were no 16 and 17 year old children that were not assessed after being presented to the Trust after having left their family home.

As in Question 1, numbers have been masked in the responses to Questions 3, 4 and 6. 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.

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(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 responses to Questions 3, 4 and 6. .