

16 May 2022

Our Ref: RFI 43913

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Requesting information regarding Pulmonary Rehabilitation Services**

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 13 April 2022.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Primary Care & Older people & Executive Director of Nursing 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

**Louise McNamara
Information Governance Assistant**

I'd like to please request the following information with regards to the pulmonary rehab services your patients have access to.

Q1. Who commissions the Pulmonary Rehab services your patients have access to and who provides these services?

A1. Pulmonary Department forms part of the Community Respiratory Services commissioned by the Department of Health (DOH). Post Covid Specific Pulmonary Rehabilitation is a separate service commissioned on a non-recurrent basis by the DOH. The Trust Community Respiratory Service Physiotherapists; Physiotherapy Assistants and Nursing staff provide the services.

Q2. When did the services first commence?

A2. Please refer to Table 1.

Table 1

Service	Year Commenced
Pulmonary Rehabilitation	2002
Post COVID Syndrome Pulmonary rehab	2021

Q3. How many patients have been referred to the service in the last 12 months and 24 months of data held?

A3. Please refer to Table 2 for the number of patients referred to the Pulmonary Rehabilitation Service by the Trust in the 24 months to 31/03/2022.

Table 2

Date	Number Of Referrals
01/04/2020 to 31/03/2021	317
01/04/2021 to 31/03/2022	441

Q4. Of these being referred how many have actually attended the service in these same time periods?

A4. Please refer to Table 3 which provides numbers of Trust patients who have attended the Pulmonary Rehabilitation Services in the 24 months to 31/03/2022.

Table 3

Date	Number who Attended Service
01/04/2020 to 31/03/2021	22
01/04/2021 to 31/03/2022	216

Q5. How long does the average patient stay within the services?

A5. The average patient stays within the service for 8.5 weeks.

Q6. What is the current waiting list size for the service?

A6. The number of patients on the current waiting list for the service is 415.

Q7. What is the current remaining contract durations for these services?

A7. The Pulmonary Rehabilitation contract is indefinite. The Long Covid Pulmonary Rehabilitation has been funded until March 2022, further allocation of funds is awaited. There is no contract in place.

Q8. Has the CCG ever commissioned Digital Respiratory Services?

A8. The CCG has never commissioned Digital Respiratory Services.

Q8.1. If so were these for Pulmonary Rehab?

A8.1. Not applicable.

Q8.2. If so who were the providers?

A8.2. Not applicable.

Q8.3. If so how many patients have utilised this digital element?

A8.3. Not applicable.