



20 October 2023

Our Ref: RFI52740

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in Relation to In-House Prosthetic and/or Orthotic Services**

I am writing to confirm that, following the response issued to you dated 5 September 2023, the South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust (the Trust) has now completed its search for the remaining information, from the Maxillo-Facial Surgery Service, relating to above which you requested on 10 August 2023. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to your request. Thank you for your understanding and forbearance.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Surgery & Elective, Maternity & Paediatric 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 Officer

Q1. Does your Trust provide in-house prosthetic and / or orthotic services? Please specify if this is a combined prosthetics and orthotics service, or just prosthetics or orthotics.

a. If not, which organisation(s) currently provide prosthetic and orthotic services to your Trust? If multiple providers are used, please clarify what area / services each provider covers.

A1. There is no in-house Prosthetic service within the Trust. All referrals for Prosthetics are sent to the regional service in the Belfast Health & Social Care Trust (Belfast Trust).

There is a specialist prosthetist aligned to maxillofacial surgery. SG Bull provide orthotic services to Trust clients.

Q2. What is the total annual spend for the following years on:

a. prosthetics (products and services)

b. orthotics (products and services)

c. if this is not possible, please provide total spend on prosthetics and orthotics (products and services)

A2. Please see Table 1.

Table 1

Product & Services Category	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY2023
Prosthetics	£35,800	£24,156	£33,020	£28,418	£24,953
Orthotics	£93,340	£132,081	£139,141	£207,269	£237,684

Please note that the Maxillo-Facial Surgery Service only hold the data for Prosthetics. Table 1 also includes the figures for Orthotics, from the Allied Health Professional Service, which has already been provided to you on 5 September 2023.

Therefore, to clarify, Table 1 shows the overall Totals for the Trust.

Q3. Could you provide a breakdown of annual spend for the following years for:

a. prosthetic services

b. prosthetic products

c. orthotic products

d. orthotic services

A3. It is not possible to provide this level of detail, the Trust is unable to differentiate between Product and Services because invoices are not recorded in this way.

Q4. *If using a third-party provider, when did the current prosthetic and / or orthotic contract(s) start and what is the contract end date? Please include any information on contract extension.*

A4. There is currently a Direct Award Contract (DAC) in place covering the provision of the Orthotist service. This was put in place on July 1st 2023 and runs until December 31st 2023