



28 May 2024

Our Ref: RFI 58639

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in Relation to Brain, Spinal and Heart Surgery**

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 20 May 2024.

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

***Can you then provide the same figures for each of the last nine years?
(Ten years in total I'm looking for).***

Q1. Can all trusts please detail for me how many patients are awaiting brain surgery in your area right now? And detail the average and longest patient waiting times?

A1. The Trust does not deliver Neurosurgery and therefore there is no information to provide.

Q2. Can all trusts please detail for me how many patients are awaiting heart surgery in your area right now? And detail the average and longest patient waiting times?

A2. The Trust does not deliver Cardiac Surgery and therefore there is no information to provide.

Q3. Can all trusts please detail for me how many patients are awaiting spinal cord surgery in your area right now? And detail the average and longest patient waiting times?

A3. The Trust does not deliver Spinal Cord Surgery and therefore there is no information to provide.

Q4. Can all trusts please detail for me the number of patients from your area who are awaiting transplants, detailing a) the type; b) average waiting time and c) longest waiting time?

A4. The Trust does not carry out Transplant Surgery and therefore there is no information to provide.