



8 July 2024

Our Ref: RFI 59025

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in Relation to Children attending A&E**

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 17 June 2024.

A response to the question raised has been provided by Planning, Performance & Informatics 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. Please provide the number of children who attended emergency departments in the SE Trust hospitals after swallowing objects (toys, for example) for the years of: 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024* (*to date), broken down by year.

Please provide details of the above attendances: broken down by dates, number of children per year, and description of item.

A1. Please see Table 1 for data in relation to children, up to 18 years of age, who attended either an Emergency Department, Minor Injuries Unit or Urgent Care Centre within the Trust after swallowing objects.

Table 1

Year	No. of Children
2020	78
2021	124
2022	111
2023	95
2024	44
Total	452

Please be advised, the data provided in Table 1 is based on triage descriptions for 'swallowed', 'ingested' or 'foreign body'.

Liquids, tablets and any other drugs have not been included.