

7 November 2024

Our Ref: FOI 276

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in Relation to Services that support patients with chronic pain**

I am writing to confirm that the South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust (the Trust) has now completed its search for information relating to the above, which you requested on 17 October 2024.

A response to the questions you have raised has been provided by the Surgery, Elective, Maternity and Paediatrics, 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

Keith McCollum
Information Governance Team

Please answer yes or no to the following questions:

Q1. In your integrated care or health board:

a) do you commission pain services in the community:

If yes, please name location/s:

b) do you commission pain services in secondary care:

If yes, please name location/s:

c) do you commission pain services in tertiary care (highly specialised services):

If yes, please name location/s:

d) do you commission alternative providers to provide pain services:

If yes, please name alternative providers and location of services:

e) Do you commission social prescribers:

If yes, please state how many:

f) In the past three years have you decommissioned pain services in your region?

If yes, please list decommissioned services?

If yes, are you commissioning alternative services such as Lifestyle Management or similar instead?

If yes, please provide details:

A1.

As a Health and Social Care Trust, we do not commission services.

Services in Northern Ireland are commissioned by the Strategic Planning and Performance Group (**SPPG**), in the Department of Health. You may wish to contact the SPPG via FOI@health-ni.gov.uk.