



7 November 2024

Our Ref: FOI 272

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in Relation to the Mental Capacity Act**

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 16 October 2024.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Adult Services & Prison Healthcare 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 extension activity (DoL extension authorisations) per month since 2019?

A1. Please see Table 1 for the number of Deprivation of Liberty (DoL) extension authorisations per month from 2019.

Please note that DoL extensions are only required 6 months after the first panel meeting date. The Trust Mental Capacity Act (MCA) Service started in December 2019, therefore extensions were only applicable from June 2020.

Table 1

Month	Year					
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
January	N/A	N/A	40	86	99	93
February	N/A	N/A	51	89	77	69
March	N/A	N/A	53	60	71	66
April	N/A	N/A	41	69	51	56
May	N/A	N/A	46	92	78	68
June	N/A	19	49	71	62	58
July	N/A	13	78	68	89	72
August	N/A	26	61	102	85	84
September	N/A	16	95	91	51	47
October	N/A	18	65	46	64	N/A
November	N/A	7	93	81	65	N/A
December	N/A	29	82	91	66	N/A

Q2. Please provide Trust Panel application forms completed by type of professional (social worker, nurse, doctor, etc.) since 2019.

A2. The information requested is not held on a central information system. To obtain this information would require a manual review of records.

This would exceed the 'Appropriate Limit' as defined by the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trust therefore exempts the release of this information under Section 12(1).

12.-(1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this statement acts as a Refusal Notice in respect of question 2.