

11th October 2018

Helen Hamill
[517415-0ac702a7@whatdotheyknow.com]

Our ref.: FOI/18/244

Dear Ms Hamill

RE: Freedom of Information (FOI) request – Dental outpatients

We refer to your Freedom of Information request which was received by the Western Health and Social Care Trust on 3rd September 2018.

Your request related to dental outpatients and you asked for information for both oral surgery and orthodontics. We apologise for the delay in responding.

You asked; ***“Could you please confirm for me that South West Acute Hospital had a "oral and maxillary Clinic" and that clinical space is re-branded now as "Dental Clinic."***

In response, the Trust can confirm that previously, the Oral and Maxillary Clinic was in place in the South West Acute Hospital. This is the only service from ‘Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery’ (OMFS) which exists as a dental clinic.

You also asked for information about both ‘oral surgery’ and ‘orthodontics’. Please see below a response to your queries.

1. What were the numbers of patients seen at this outpatients over past 3 years?

In response please see Appendix 1 below which shows details of ‘oral surgery’ and ‘orthodontic’ outpatient activity at the South West Acute Hospital for financial years 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18.

2. Please give reasons for changes provided by these outpatient specialisms.

In response, the Trust’s Acute services directorate has advised that there has been no change in the service.

3. What are staffing levels both staff numbers and WTE - again over the 3 years?

Prior to April 2017: Consultant cover was 0.3 WTE per week and 0.1 WTE Specialty Doctor.

From April 2017: Consultant cover is 0.2 WTE per week and 0.1 WTE Specialty Doctor.

We hope you find this response helpful. Please contact us at the below address if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely

(Not signed – issued by email)

**Freedom of Information Office
Western Health and Social Care Trust**

Freedom of Information: 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 FOI Office, Lime Villa, Gransha Park, Clooney Road, Londonderry, BT47 6WJ (foi.request@westerntrust.hscni.net) within two months of the date of this response and your complaint will be considered and a response provided, usually 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, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF. 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.

Appendix 1

SOUTH WEST ACUTE HOSPITAL ORAL SURGERY OUTPATIENT ACTIVITY

Fiscal Year	Hospital of Clinic Name	Attendances (New)	Attendances (Follow up)	Attendances
2015/2016	SOUTH WEST HOSPITAL	464	524	988
	SOUTH WEST HOSPITAL	80	1	81
		544	525	1069

Fiscal Year	Hospital of Clinic Name	Attendances (New)	Attendances (Follow up)	Attendances
2016/2017	SOUTH WEST HOSPITAL	214	216	430
	SOUTH WEST HOSPITAL	2	10	12
	SOUTH WEST HOSPITAL	0	32	32
		216	258	474

Fiscal Year	Hospital of Clinic Name	Attendances (New)	Attendances (Follow up)	Attendances
2017/2018	SOUTH WEST HOSPITAL	80	91	171
		80	91	171

SOUTH WEST ACUTE HOSPITAL ORTHODONTIC OUTPATIENT ACTIVITY 2015/16, 2016/17 & 2017/18

Fiscal Year	Hospital of Clinic Name	Attendances (New)	Attendances (Follow up)	Attendances
2015/2016	SOUTH WEST HOSPITAL	120	1061	1181
		120	1061	1181

Fiscal Year	Hospital of Clinic Name	Attendances (New)	Attendances (Follow up)	Attendances
2016/2017	SOUTH WEST HOSPITAL	80	918	998
		80	918	998

Fiscal Year	Hospital of Clinic Name	Attendances (New)	Attendances (Follow up)	Attendances
2017/2018	SOUTH WEST HOSPITAL	61	786	847
		61	786	847