



Ms Harriet Clugston  
[request-720824-ffc10a63@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-720824-ffc10a63@whatdotheyknow.com)

01 March 2021

**Our Ref:** RFI 37428

Dear Ms Clugston

**Freedom of Information Act 2000  
Information in relation to Domestic Abuse Services**

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 22 January 2021.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Children's Services & Social Work 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](mailto: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

  
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**Rebecca Manning**  
Information Governance Assistant

**Q1. Do you provide access to an Independent Domestic Abuse Advisor?**

**Q2. If yes, do you provide access to an IDAA at every hospital site?**

A. In relation to Q1 & Q2, the Trust does not provide access to an Independent Domestic Abuse Advisor.

**Q3. Do you employ a domestic abuse specialist nurse?**

**Q4. If yes, do you employ a domestic abuse specialist nurse at every hospital site?**

A. In relation to Q3 & Q4, the Trust does not employ a domestic abuse specialist nurse.

**Q5. Do you have a Domestic Abuse policy?**

A5. Yes, the Trust has a Domestic Abuse policy, this is the Workplace Policy. The policy requires an update, however there is a regional group leading on this to ensure a consistent approach across all Trusts.

**Q6. If yes, please provide a copy.**

A6. Please see Attachment 1 – Workplace Policy.

**Q7. Do you produce an annual safeguarding report on domestic abuse?**

A7. No, the Trust does not produce an annual safeguarding report on domestic abuse, however the Domestic & Sexual Violence and Abuse Partnership completes an annual review report.

The Trust produces a Local Adult Safeguarding Panel (LASP) report which contains data and information on many of the activities undertaken by the Trust and its partnership agencies within the independent/voluntary/faith groups.

Many of these activities meet the requirements of the prevention, protection and partnership agenda simultaneously.

The Trust also produces a Delegated Statutory Functions (DSF) report that again captures adult protection activity, some of which relates to domestic violence.

**Q8. Do you conduct internal audits to ensure compliance to the domestic abuse policy?**

A8. No, the Trust does not conduct internal audits to ensure compliance to the domestic abuse policy.

**Q9. Have you conducted training for staff on domestic abuse in the last 12 months? If no, in the last 24 months?**

A9. Yes, the Trust has conducted training for staff on domestic abuse in the last 12 months.

Domestic Violence is also incorporated in the various Trust Adult Safeguarding training levels.

**Q10. How many Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Harassment (DASH) risk assessments were completed by the Trust/Health Board in 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020?**

A10. The information requested is not centrally recorded and would require a manual review of case files in consultation with all staff.

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.

**Q11. How many domestic abuse, stalking and harassment (DASH) referrals were made by the trust/health board to a Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference in 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020?**

A11. Please Attachment 2 – DASH Referrals to MARAC.