

FOI 1542

04.04.2023

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST

Request:

1. All information relating to any review, risk assessment and/or audit within the Southern Health & Social Care Trust of abnormal or misread smear test results;
2. All information relating to any review, risk assessment and or/audit taking place in relation to any Pathology laboratories within the Southern Health & Social Care Trust;
3. All information relating to the ongoing review, risk assessment and or/audit by the Royal College of Pathology into abnormal or misread smear test results, to include the scope of this enquire, the parties involved and why it was deemed necessary;
4. All information, including for the avoidance of doubt any audits, relating to any Serious Adverse Incidents launched in relation to the misreading of smear tests from 2010 to date.

For the avoidance of any doubt, “all information” refers to documents, correspondence, notes, memoranda, files and records including cytological records of any kind however maintained (electronically, in hard copy format or any other manner).

Response:

Your request for correspondence relating to misread smear tests has now been considered by the Southern Health & Social Care Trust and unfortunately cannot be processed.

The information is not centrally collated and we consider that the cost of retrieving the information would be above the ‘appropriate limit’ as stated in the Freedom of Information

(Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004. The cost of one or more person spending 18 hours or more locating, retrieving and extracting the information would exceed the £450 limit and is therefore cost prohibitive.

Email: Foi.Team@Southerntrust.hscni.net