Southern Health and Social Care Trust

Quality Care - for you, with you

Information Governance Team

FOI – 1645

10th May 2023

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST

Under FOI legislation please outline the number of instances that under-18s have been placed by the Trust in a) the Republic of Ireland and b) Great Britain from the start of 2017 to the end of 2022, broken down to show the number of these placements per year.

2017 - <5
2018 - 0
2019 - 0
2020 – <5
2021 - 0
2022 – <5

The Trust has a legal duty to protect patient confidentiality and, in line with this duty, the figure <5 has been provided where figures are very low. This is because of the potential risk of identification of an individual. In reaching this decision the Trust has taken into account the small geographical area which the Trust serves and the sensitivity of the information requested. In addition the Trust has taken into account the fact that all information disclosed in response to an FOI is disclosed to the 'world at large' and is published on the Trust website.

S 40 (2) (third party information) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 has been applied to exempt the redacted information from disclosure. The Trust does not consider the disclosure of the redacted information to be fair to the individuals concerned as there is the potential risk of identification of an individual(s) which they would not expect, and which would therefore breach the fairness element of the first principle of the Data Protection Act 2018

Please also break these down by the following. (If not by year, then a breakdown of the 2017-22 total)

- those placed under Article 33 of the Children Order; 6
- **those transferred under the Mental Health (NI) Order 1986;** 0
- those transferred under parental consent; 0
- those who were transferred following a business case filed with the DOH. 6

All cases were subject of Extra Contractual Referrals to HSCB now SPPG

Please also provide:

- **annual cost of the placements. –**

  All have been funded via Extra Contractual Referral arrangements funded by the Department of Health. The Trust does not hold the exact finance detail required.

  The cost of placements varies according to the provider as well as the level of support required to manage the young person's needs. More recent costing for an ECR placement range from @ £550,000 - £800,000.

- **length of the placements. (If not possible to provide length of each placement, then please provide the shortest, longest, and average.)**

  shortest: *6 months*

  longest : *15 months*

  average : *11 months*

  ages of those in the placements. (If not possible to provide age of each person, then please provide the youngest, oldest, and average age.)

  Age range 9 to 15 years

- **gender breakdown of the 2017-2022 figure.**

  Female <5 **Male** <5

  A list of cities/regions where placements have taken place with during the 2017-2022 period.

  Republic of Ireland

  Scotland

  England

- **A list of names of the providers that have been used.**

  Ashdale Care

  Freshstart

  Southlands School