

FOI 1997

8.11.2023

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST

In reference to the emergency or temporary accommodation for young people under the age of 18 in your trust, can you confirm that all staff/percentage of staff (not only owners/managers) working within the B&B or hotel have been access NI checked prior to placing a young person there?

During the period year April 2022 – March 2023 the Southern Health and Social Care Trust placed < 5 young people* in emergency temporary self-contained accommodation. Access NI checks were not applicable in these circumstances as the young people were not residing with any other person.

*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.

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