

FOI 2187

20th February 2024**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST**

1. The number of Band 8 and above of employees who are from a perceived Nationalist / Catholic community.
2. The number of Band 8 and above of employees from a perceived Unionist/Protestant community.
3. The number of Band 8 and above of employees who identify as other.

I am requesting this information about the Acute Directorate specifically within Atics, Medicine and Unscheduled care, Elective care, Labs and Cancer Services and Senior Management Team of the Southern Trust.

Response:

To note:

Due to the small number of staff involved in this response, the Trust cannot provide this level of detail as it could lead to the identification of individuals and is considered exempt under section 40(2) of the Act which exempts personal information from disclosure if that information relates to someone other than the applicant, and if disclosure of the information would, among other things, contravene one of the data protection principles in schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act. In this case, it is our belief that disclosure would contravene the first data protection principle, which provides that personal data must be processed fairly and lawfully.

To maintain confidentiality, an overall percentage breakdown is included.

Please also note that collection of this information is voluntary (not mandatory) and therefore may not be completed by all staff.

559 Staff	Protestant	Roman Catholic	Neither
Band 8 and above	33.4%	60.1%	6.5%

Notes:

For comparison purposes the overall Southern Trust Workforce profile is included below:

Section 75 Group	Southern Trust Workforce Profile as at <u>1 January 2024</u>	Percentage
Religion	Protestant Roman Catholic Neither	34.2% 56.2% 9.6%

The religious composition of the Trust's overall workforce is reflecting the increasing trend within the Health Sector in favour of Roman Catholics as evidenced in the Equality Commission's Annual Fair Employment Monitoring Report No 28 – A Summary of NI Monitored Workforce Return.

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