

FOI – 2124

2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST**

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**Request for a list of full names of psychiatrists in Daisy Hill hospital from September 2022 onwards.**

Response:

Your request for information regarding full names of Consultant Psychiatrists has now been considered and this information is exempt from disclosure under section 40 of Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The Trust cannot provide full names of Consultant Psychiatrists as this level of detail is considered exempt under section 40(2) – third party personal information because disclosure would breach the first data protection principle. Individual psychiatrists would not have the reasonable expectation that their name would be made public in response to an FOI request, which is considered to be a “disclosure to the world at large”. Disclosure would therefore be unfair to these individuals.

If names of individual professional staff are released there is also the potential risk that they will receive unnecessary direct contact unrelated to their front-line duties and could become the target of harassment directly or via internet campaigns. This could have an impact on the ability of the staff member to perform their front line duties. Although there is some public interest in disclosing this information it does not outweigh the potential consequences. Disclosure would be unfair and therefore breach the first data protection principle.

The Southern Health & Social Care Trust therefore regrets that it cannot meet your request.

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