

2 September 2022

Documentation related to the handling of FOI 20906

1. **Documentation related to the handling of FOI 20906 and the subsequent internal review of the Trust's decision not to release this information.**
 - 1 A. **I request all internal correspondence related to this FOI, including input from Neurology Services.**
 - 1 B. **Any memos, minutes of meetings, notes of conversations etc about this request.**
 - 1 C. **Any external correspondence relating to FOI 20906**
 - 1 D. **Any internal documentation referencing the Trust's position regarding the possibility of providing the report in a redacted version.**

Available on request.

2. **I also request information on what legal advice, if any, was sought in relation to the disclosure of the material requested in this FOI request. For clarity, I am referring to any legal advice sought or received regarding the Trust's position in relation to disclosing the report written by the Royal College of Physicians, whether this arose as a result of FOI 20906 or otherwise. Please include a copy of this legal advice, redacted as required to protect personal information.**
 - 2 A. **Please provide any external correspondence relating to this advice, or to the Trust's legal position vis a vis disclosure of the RCP report.**

The information requested is exempt under Section 42 Legal professional privilege; covering confidentiality of communications in legal proceedings, to allow the Trust to speak freely and frankly with legal advisers in order to obtain appropriate legal advice.

3. **Information on the cost of any legal advice sought in relation to the disclosure of the material referenced in FOI 20906. This includes requests for the same information identified in FOI 20906 arising from other FOI requests, or other requests for this information.**

Legal advice in relation to this matter was provided by the Directorate of Legal Services (DLS), of the Business Services Organisation. The Belfast Health and Social Care Trust, as with other Trusts in Northern Ireland, has an overall Service Level Agreement with DLS for the provision of legal services, and as such a breakdown of the cost for this advice is not available.