

7 August 2023

Social Worker Office

Earlier this year I asked whether any hospital social workers in the RBHSC had been provided with a private office and on the 16/2/2023 you provided this response:

10. Have any of the candidates for this post already been provided with a private office within the confines of Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children (RBHSC)

No Social Worker within RBHSC has been assigned a private office except for the Senior Social Worker who has an allocated office.

1. Following on from this response, under the FOI Act I am asking whether an individual Hospital social worker in RBHSC has exclusively been using an office in the RBHSC for business use, apart from the office used by the current Senior Social Worker.

The Trust is aware that one of the rooms allocated to the Service was networked for two desktops. While one PC was installed and therefore in use, the second PC which had been on order since 25 October 2022 had not been delivered/connected at the point when the Trust responded to FOI/28754 on 16 February 2023. The Trust can therefore confirm this room is not exclusively assigned to one staff member.

2. If that is the case when did that begin? Did it precede my previous FOI request and, if so, how long before that request was made?

The Service has been able to access both the room and the available PC for some considerable years, the exact date of which, the Trust is unable to confirm.

3. If an individual Hospital social worker (apart from the Senior Social Worker) in the RBHSC has had the exclusive use of an office in the hospital, can you tell me whether following my initial FOI request which you responded to on the 16/2/2023 whether that social worker still enjoys exclusive use of that office?

N/A – see above.