

12 May 2026

## **Attendance and Funding – IHEEM Healthcare Estates Conference 2025**

**Information under the Freedom of Information Act regarding the attendance of Belfast Health and Social Care Trust staff at the IHEEM Healthcare Estates Conference, Exhibition, and Awards, held in Manchester in October 2025.**

**Please provide the following information:**

### **Attendance Records**

- 1. What was the total number of Trust employees who attended all or part of this event?  
(Note: Information from other NI Trusts suggests approximately 30 staff members from the Belfast Trust Estates Department were in attendance.)**

Total number of Trust employees who attended all or part of this event = 34.

### **Financial Expenditure**

- 2. Did the Trust provide funding (covering registration, travel, accommodation, or other expenses) for all staff members in attendance**

Yes, Belfast Trust provided funding for staff members in attendance. \*Less than five colleagues were invited to attend as guest speakers and as members of technical platforms and the registration cost for these were covered by IHEEM.

- 3. What was the total aggregate cost to the Trust for this event?**

Total aggregate cost to the Trust for this event was: £27,021.17

### **Conflicts of Interest & Third-Party Funding**

- 4. For any staff members whose attendance was not fully funded by the Trust, is the Trust aware of any external funding provided by contractors or third-party commercial entities?**

Yes – external funding was provided for some staff to attend this conference. \*Less than five colleagues were invited to attend as guest speakers and as members of technical platforms and the registration cost for these were covered by IHEEM.

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**5. If such funding occurred, what measures did the Trust take to identify and manage potential conflicts of interest?**

No potential conflicts of interest recorded, specific to attendance at this conference.

The conference was described as an 'invaluable event for healthcare professionals involved in the funding, design, building, management and maintenance of healthcare facilities' and provided an 'efficient way to engage with key issues, enhance knowledge and to earn Continual Professional Development (CPD) points.'

Key themes included:

- Strategic Health & Social Care Planning
- Governance, Assurance & Compliance
- Digital Technology & Innovation
- Medical & Healthcare Engineering
- Estates & Facilities Services

**Business Continuity & Risk Management**

**6. Given the significant number of staff reportedly absent from a single department, did the Trust conduct a Business Continuity Risk Assessment prior to authorising attendance?**

Business Continuity Risk Assessment not conducted.

**7. If so, please provide a summary of the findings or the date the assessment was approved.**

Not applicable.

**8. Was Director Approval sought and obtained?**

Co-Director approval sought and obtained.

*\* Where numbers are low we have put <5 rather than state the actual figure. To ensure that patient remain non identifiable. Disclosure of this information would breach the first data protection principle, which relates to the fair and lawful processing of personal data. Therefore, we have concluded that this information is exempt from disclosure under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act - Personal Information relating to a third party.*