

1 September 2026

Aquariums and Aquatic Displays within Belfast Trust

1. Existing Aquariums

Please confirm whether the Trust currently owns or operates any ornamental aquarium(s) or aquatic displays.

If yes, please provide:

- The number of aquariums currently in operation.

Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children (RBHSC)

4.

Trauma and Orthopaedics Musgrave Park Hospital (Paediatrics)

1.

- Their general location (e.g. reception, children's ward, outpatient department, waiting area).

RBHSC locations:

Emergency Department
MRI
Outpatients
Haematology Outpatients Department.

Trauma and Orthopaedics Musgrave Park Hospital (Paediatrics) location:

Withers Ward 2B Children's Waiting Area.

- The approximate year each aquarium was installed.

RBHSC:

Under Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, Belfast Health and Social Care Trust can confirm that it does not hold the information requested.

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Trauma and Orthopaedics Musgrave Park Hospital (Paediatrics):

2024.

2. Installation Supplier

For each aquarium, please provide:

- The company that supplied and / or installed the aquarium.
- Whether the installation was procured via a tender or procurement framework or a direct award (and, if applicable, the name of the framework).

Under Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Trust can confirm that it does not hold the information requested.

It is Belfast Trust's understanding that the fish tanks were historically sourced by the charity formerly known as Helping Hand, now rebranded as Little Heroes, and that it is they who are responsible for maintenance of the tanks.

3. Maintenance

Please confirm:

- Whether aquarium maintenance is carried out in-house or by an external contractor.

An external contractor carries out maintenance on a weekly basis.

If externally maintained:

- Name of the contractor.
- Contract start date.
- Contract expiry or renewal date.
- Approximate annual contract value.

Under Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Trust can confirm that it does not hold the information requested.

It is Belfast Trust's understanding that the fish tanks were historically sourced by the charity formerly known as Helping Hand, now rebranded as Little Heroes, and that it is they who are responsible for maintenance of the tanks.

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4. Future Projects

Please confirm whether the Trust currently has any plans, approved projects or budget allocations for new aquarium installations, replacements or refurbishments within the next 24 months.

Belfast Trust has no plans for any projects of this nature.

5. Procurement

Please provide:

- **The department responsible for procuring aquarium installations and maintenance.**
- **The job title of the person or team responsible.**

Aquariums are neither procured nor maintained by Belfast Trust. Therefore, the Trust does not have a department, team or officer responsible for the procurement or maintenance of aquariums.

6. Expenditure

Please provide, where available:

- **Total expenditure on aquarium installations over the previous five financial years.**
- **Annual expenditure on aquarium maintenance for each of the previous five financial years.**

Belfast Trust did not fund any aquarium installations and does not incur any expenditure in relation to aquarium installations or aquarium maintenance. Therefore, the Trust does not hold expenditure information for the previous five financial years in respect of these items.

7. Supporting Documentation

Please provide copies of any business cases, reports, evaluations or studies relating to the installation of aquariums, including any documents discussing patient wellbeing, staff wellbeing, visitor experience or therapeutic benefits.

Under Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Trust can confirm that it does not hold the information requested.