Belfast Health and Social Care Trust
caring supporting improving together

FOI/38369

2 November 2026

Communication with Health Minister regarding Mid Ulster Childhood Cancer Concerns

1. **Records showing when and how any RBHSC clinician contributed to a briefing for the Minister, his office, the Department of Health, the Chief Medical Officer or the PHA about these concerns. Please include invitations, calendar entries, attendance records, emails, briefing papers, presentations, notes, minutes and follow-up correspondence.**

   Copies of texts between Dr Johnston and Public Health Authority (Attachment 1). Redactions have been made to remove Personal Information and staff names of those under a Band 8A in accordance with Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

   Belfast Trust does not hold any further information. Please redirect your enquiry to The Strategic Planning and Performance Group (SPPG) FOI@health-ni.gov.uk.

2. **Copies of any analysis, report, case counts or other material actually supplied to or reviewed by the clinician for that briefing. Please provide records showing whether the material covered cases diagnosed in 2023, 2024 and 2025 separately, and what years, age ranges, cancer types and geographical areas it examined.**

   Belfast Trust does not hold this information. Please redirect your enquiry to The Strategic Planning and Performance Group (SPPG) FOI@health-ni.gov.uk.

3. **Records showing what the clinician was asked to do with that material: for example, verify case numbers, give a clinical impression, assess Mid Ulster incidence, or comment on whether further investigation was needed. Please provide any recorded questions, instructions or stated purpose.**

   Belfast Trust does not hold this information. Please redirect your enquiry to The Strategic Planning and Performance Group (SPPG) FOI@health-ni.gov.uk.

4. **Records of the advice or information the clinician gave, including any conclusion attributed to them that there was "no concern", that incidence was being monitored in real time, or that the work provided reassurance. Please include any record identifying which years and cases that advice was based on.**

   Belfast Trust does not hold this information. Please redirect your enquiry to The Strategic Planning and Performance Group (SPPG) FOI@health-ni.gov.uk.

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5. **Any records created during this period that refer back to an earlier clinician discussion or briefing and were used to prepare, check or support the statements in the 2 August letter or 14 September Assembly answer.**

   Belfast Trust does not hold this information. Please redirect your enquiry to The Strategic Planning and Performance Group (SPPG) FOI@health-ni.gov.uk.

6. **Please confirm, from records held, whether the clinician briefed the former Minister directly or provided information that was later relayed to him. If no analysis of 2024 or 2025 cases was supplied to the clinician, please state whether the Trust holds any record explaining why reassurance about the Mid Ulster concern was attributed to that briefing.**

   Belfast Trust does not hold this information. Please redirect your enquiry to The Strategic Planning and Performance Group (SPPG) FOI@health-ni.gov.uk.