

09 March 2023

## Information about the Health and Social Care Trust's network providers

I am seeking information about your health and social care trust's network of providers. To better understand your digital capabilities, infrastructure, and integration, I'm seeking answers to the following questions:

Request	Response
<b>Do you have plans in place for integrating data systems between primary, community, and secondary care?</b>	The HSC Digital Strategy 2022-2030 is leading digital transformation across healthcare in Northern Ireland to improve health & social care outcomes, supported by a range of strategic delivery programmes including Integrated Care System Northern Ireland. <a href="https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/digitalstrategy">https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/digitalstrategy</a>
<b>Do you have a baseline mapping of your digital infrastructure in place?</b>	*Information withheld on the basis of cyber security.
<b>Do you have a public facing digital strategy?</b>	The HSC Digital Strategy 2022-2030 is leading digital transformation across healthcare in Northern Ireland to improve health & social care outcomes. <a href="https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/digitalstrategy">https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/digitalstrategy</a>
<b>Do you use patient initiated follow-up (PIFU) processes or technology?</b>	*Information withheld on the basis of cyber security.
<b>Do you employ the following roles in your health system? If yes, approximately how many?</b>	
<b>1. Chief System Integration Officer</b>	No
<b>2. Director of Digital Products</b>	No
<b>3. Director of Analytics</b>	No
<b>4. Digital Lead/Director</b>	No
<b>5. Director of Partnerships</b>	No
<b>6. Head/Director of Digital Solutions</b>	No
<b>7. Head/Director of Digital Innovation</b>	No
<b>8. Head/Director of Digital Transformation</b>	No
<b>9. Head/Director of System Strategy</b>	No
<b>10. Head/Director of Integration</b>	No
<b>11. Head/Director of Transformation</b>	No
<b>12. Head/Director of System Partnerships</b>	No
<b>13. Data Scientist</b>	No
<b>14. Data Analyst</b>	No

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<b>15. Head/Director of Data Science/Artificial Intelligence</b>	No
<b>16. <i>Other roles related to innovation and/or transformation</i></b>	Director of Performance, Planning and Informatics & Co-Director of Digital Services have lead responsibility for Digital innovation, integration and transformation.

\* All of this information is exempt from release under Section 31(1)(a) – Law Enforcement and Section 43 – Commercial Interests.

Section 31(1)(a) states that information is exempt if its disclosure is likely to prejudice the prevention or detection of crime. ICO guidance states that this can be used to protect information on a public authority's systems, which would make it more vulnerable to crime. It can be used by a public authority that has no law enforcement function:

- To protect the work of one that does
- To withhold information that would make anyone, including the public authority itself, more vulnerable to crime.

Section 43(2) states that information is exempt if its disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it). Disclosure of the requested information would leave Belfast Trusts digital infrastructure at significant risk of cyber security attack. This would compromise Belfast Trust's ability to provide Health and Care Services and carry on business-as-usual should the digital systems be compromised.

Both of these exemptions are Qualified Exemptions and are therefore subject to a Public Interest Test (PIT).

I can confirm that we have now carried out a PIT and the outcome is to maintain both exemptions and withhold the information from release.