

01 September 2020

BY EMAIL
[REDACTED]**Our Ref: FOI 1303**

Dear [REDACTED]

Your request for information was received on 3rd August 2020 and was dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please be advised that the Business Services Organisation (BSO) has now completed its search for the information you requested with regards to the HSC Leadership Centre.

Please find a response to your request, as follows:

1) How many Associates are currently employed, or carryout any work, research, investigations by the HCL and for the last 5 years broken down by year?

The HSC Leadership Centre does not employ any of the Associates; they are all self-employed and used as staff substitutes when capacity demands. Therefore the figures below relate to the number of associates who carried out work on our behalf. It is made clear to Associate Consultants at the outset, entry on to the list is no guarantee of work.

YEAR	Number of associate consultants on list	Number of associates who carried out work
2016	83	No information held
2017	91	53
2018	100	53
2019	147	65
2020	161	31 (to date)



2) What is the mechanism for and or written criteria to enroll as an associate of the HCL? Please provide a copy of criteria.

When recruitment to the Associate Select list is open, an advertisement is placed in the Belfast Telegraph and on HSC Leadership Centre's website. An application form (attached) is completed and submitted by interested parties. Applicants are then invited to an interview with the Head of Centre and Operations and Business Manager. This interview is scored and applicants who achieve the pass mark are placed on the list.

3) Has any applicant been refused or associate membership withdrawn and if so how many over the last 5 years?

Please refer to the below table.

Year	Number withdrawn	Number below pass mark
2016	16	1
2017	2	5
2018	3	4
2019	30	6
2020	N/A	N/A

4) What is the total amount paid to associate members for any work carried out on behalf of the HCL for each of the last 5 years?

- 2016/17 - £309,353
- 2017/18 - £234,043;
- 2018/19 - £395,617;
- 2019/20 - £231,375

A high percentage of this expenditure is recharged back to the commissioning client (Trusts, HSC Board, Department of Health and other arm's length bodies).

5) What is the total budget for the HCL

- 2016/17 – £2,520,608;
- 2017/18 – £2,501,646;
- 2018/19 – £2,560,147;
- 2019/20 – £2,751,485;
- 2020/21 – £2,819,070

I hope that the information provided assists you. If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review. You should do this as soon as possible or in any case within two months of the date of issue of this letter.

In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to

Information Governance Manager,
2 Franklin Street,
Belfast,
BT2 8DQ

If, following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision making panel, you remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request, you may make a complaint under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate whether the BSO has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act.

You can contact Information Commissioner at:

Website: www.ico.org.uk
Phone: 0303 123 1113
Email: casework@ico.org.uk
Post: Information Commissioner's Office
3rd Floor, 14 Cromac Place
Belfast
BT7 2JB

In most circumstances the Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out. However the Commissioner has the option to investigate the matter at his discretion.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen Bailey".

Karen Bailey
Acting Chief Executive