

October 24<sup>th</sup> 2017

BY EMAIL

Chief Executive 2 Franklin Street

BELFAST BT2 8DQ

Tel: 028 9536 3863

Email: FOI.BSO@hscni.net

Our Ref: FOI 785

Dear

Your request for information was received on October 4<sup>th</sup> 2017 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 'Monthly Payment Analysis' of local competitors within Antrim.

It is the view of BSO that this information is exempt from release in accordance with Section 43 (2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This exemption relates to commercial interests and is a qualified exemption as such BSO has applied a public interest test to this application, a copy of which has been included.

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:** <u>www.ico.org.uk</u> 0303 123 1113

Providing Support to Health and Social Care



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 Sineerely,

**Liam McIvor**Chief Executive

## **Public Interest Test**

Family Practitioner Services, Ophthalmic Payment Department, Monthly Payment Analysis	
Exemption claimed in respect of Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000: Commercial Interests	
In favour of disclosure of information	In favour of not disclosing information
The public may be interested in knowing	To publicly release the information
that commercial activities are conducted	sought would be likely to prejudice the
in an open and honest way.	commercial interests of other parties.
	Releasing this information could damage good commercial relations with the other
	parties.
	The release of such information to
	competitors could expose BSO to
	breaches of confidentiality.