

July 2nd 2018

BY EMAIL

Tel: 028 9536 3863
Email: FOI.BSO@hscni.net

Our Ref: FOI 895

Dear 

Your request for information was received on June 5th 2018 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 'expert witness' operations.

1. How many times did the BSCHT suggest/employ the Emeritus professor?

10 times

2. How many times did the NHSCT suggest/employ the Emeritus professor?

8 times

3. How many times did the SHSCT suggest/employ the Emeritus professor?

22 times

4. How many times did the SEHSCT suggest/employ the Emeritus professor?

11 times

5. How many times did the WHSCT suggest/employ the Emeritus professor?

2 times

6. Of these occasions how many times did the professor's conclusions/findings differ from the Trust's proposed care plans?

Provision of this information would require an analysis of all relevant files. This would take considerable time, far in excess of the appropriate limit of 18 hours as set out within Articles 3 and 4 of The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2004/3244/contents/made>

In line with Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act (2000), this acts as a refusal to provide the information on the grounds of the cost of compliance exceeding the appropriate limit.

- 7. Under the most recent practice directions for expert witnesses, it would appear the Professor does not qualify, ie she “is not currently working and therefore is not up to date with current research and teachings”. This being the case, is the professor employed in any ongoing cases?**

The professor is employed in some ongoing cases. I would further advise that your question of whether the Professor is qualified or otherwise falls outside of the scope of the Freedom of Information Act (2000), and as such BSO provides no comment.

- 8. The Emeritus professor is a professor of social work and possesses ZERO clinical/medical qualifications. Is it therefore accepted if Professor Iwaniec-Curl makes reference/comment to any diagnosed conditions she is stepping outside her legal remit?**

That is a question for the courts to answer.

- 9. How much did the BHSCT pay Professor Iwaniec-Curl for original reports in years June 2013-June 2018?**

BSO is not in a position to provide that information, as it constitutes the Professor's personal data. The BSO relies on the exemption relating to personal information at Section 40 (3)(a)(i) of the Freedom of Information Act, as to provide this information would breach data protection principles. This is an absolute exemption and therefore a public interest test is not required.

- 10. How much did the NHSCT pay Professor Iwaniec-Curl for original reports in years June 2013-2018?**

The same answer for BHSCT applies.

- 11. How much did the SHSCT pay Professor Iwaniec-Curl for original reports in years June 2013-June 2018?**

The same answer for BHSCT applies.

- 12. How much did the SEHSCT pay Professor Iwaniec-Curl for original reports in years June 2013-June 2018?**

The same answer given in respect of BHSCT applies.

- 13. How much did the WHSCT pay Professor Iwaniec-Curl for original reports in years June 2013-June 2018?**

The same answer given in respect of BHSCT applies.

14. What happens if/when the Emeritus professor's conclusions/findings are incorrect (even if they have been accepted by the court) do removed children qualify for rehabilitation home?

This is not a question that BSO can answer; they are issues for the court.

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

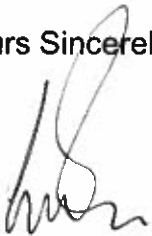
If, following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision making panel, you remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request, you may make a complaint under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate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



Liam McIlvor
Chief Executive