

## Questions:

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act regarding the GP practice at Dromore & Trillick which has been operated by the Western Health and Social Care Trust following the handback of the GP contract.

I would be grateful if you could provide the following information:

- 1) Contract takeover
  - a) The date on which the Western Health and Social Care Trust assumed responsibility for operating the Dromore & Trillick GP practice.
  - b) The type of contractual arrangement under which the Trust operates the practice (e.g. APMS or other contractual mechanism).
  - c) Copies of any documents outlining the governance or contractual framework for the Trust's operation of the practice.
- 2) Periodic reviews
  - a) The dates of all formal reviews conducted since the Trust assumed responsibility for the practice.
  - b) Copies of reports, board papers, internal review documents, or briefing papers produced as part of those reviews.
  - c) Minutes of meetings where the continuation of Trust operation of the practice was discussed or decided.
- 3) Decision-making criteria
  - a) Documents outlining the criteria used to assess whether a Trust-run GP practice should:
    - remain under Trust management, or
    - return to the independent GP partnership model.
  - b) Any policy guidance issued by the Department of Health relating to the management or transition of Trust-run GP practices.
- 4) Consideration of returning to partnership
  - a) Any documentation showing whether the option of returning the Dromore & Trillick practice to an independent GP partnership model has been considered.
  - b) Details of any recruitment exercises or processes undertaken to identify potential GP partners to assume the contract.
  - c) The outcomes of any such processes.
- 5) Funding arrangements
  - a) The annual funding provided to the Western Health and Social Care Trust for the operation of the Dromore & Trillick practice since the contract was taken over.
  - b) A breakdown of funding streams where available (e.g. core GP contract funding, additional support payments, or other primary care funding).
- 6) Future planning
  - a) Any documents outlining the current or planned future model for the practice.
  - b) Whether there is a formal plan or timetable for returning the practice to an independent GP partnership model.

## Response:

- 1)
  - a) Western Health & Social Care Trust (WHSCT) assumed responsibility for management of Dromore & Trillick GP Practice from 1st July 2022.
  - b) The WHSCT provide GMS services to the patients under a Memorandum of Understanding.
  - c) Please see attached memorandum of understanding at appendix 1 attached. This MOU has been rolled forward on an annual basis.
- 2)
  - a) No formal reviews have been completed. A forum meeting Western Health & Social Care Trust Primary Care (Trust Managed GP Practices) Strategic Planning Group has been established to review management of all GP Practices currently held by WHSCT.
  - b) Please see attached Terms of Reference for the forum and the relevant sections of meeting minutes concerning Dromore and Trillick Practice at appendix 2 through 4 attached. You will also notice a number of redactions have been made to the names of individuals. The redactions have been applied via application of Section 40 of the FOI Act – Personal Information. Further information in respect of this exemption is provided in appendix 5.
  - c) Please see above.
- 3)
  - a) It has not been necessary to carry out an assessment.
  - b) No policy guidance has been issued
- 4) No documents, processes or recruitment exercises of this nature have been undertaken.
- 5)
  - a) The total funding provided to the WHSCT for the operation of the Dromore & Trillick practice since the contract was taken over is as follows:

Financial Year	Total Funding
	£'k
2022/23 (9 mths)	760
2023/24	1,419
2024/25	1,111
- 6)
  - a) There are no documents outlining the current or planned future model for the Practice.
  - b) There is no formal plan or timetable to return this practice to an independent GP partnership model.

*Appendices may be requested from the Information Management Branch (IMB) if required at the following address:*

- [FOI@health-ni.gov.uk](mailto:FOI@health-ni.gov.uk)

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