Email correspondence to and from SOAS up to 29 October 2026, including agreement for delivery of SOAS forms.

From: Curran Chris
Sent: 29 October 2026 11:20
To: 'SOAS Press' <soas.swah@gmail.com>
Cc: Breen Shane <Shane.Breen@westerntrust.hscni.net>; McGinley Madonna <Madonna.McGinley@westerntrust.hscni.net>
Subject: RE: Survey

Yes that is fine Helen,

you had asked for a specific time but there is no problem if you arrive during the time period highlighted.

We will see you at around 3.30pm.

The address and pin for exact location is at the bottom of the response:

Address for delivery of Surveys:

- FWT Health and Care Futures Project Management Office
  DBS, Tyrone and Fermanagh Hospital Site,
  7 Donaghanie Road,
  Omagh,
  County Tyrone
  BT79 0NS

Click here for Google Maps Pin for Location: https://maps.apple/p/9Ys7Qi3nUEdT6P

Regards

Chris

From: SOAS Press <soas.swah@gmail.com>
Sent: 29 October 2026 11:01
To: Curran Chris <Chris.Curran@westerntrust.hscni.net>
Cc: Breen Shane <Shane.Breen@westerntrust.hscni.net>; McGinley Madonna <Madonna.McGinley@westerntrust.hscni.net>
Subject: Re: Survey

Chris,

Note your time Limitation.

Unfortunately, that is not possible. We will be within the window of time which you said yesterday we will endeavour to have them there before 3.30pm.
We made our arrangements yesterday which clearly stated that somebody in Omagh will accept these.

> Should SOAS wish to deliver the material this week, the available opportunity is between **2.30pm and 5.00pm on Thursday 29 October 2026** at DBS, Omagh. Arrangements are not in place for South West Acute Hospital to receive or accept delivery on behalf of the programme.

We need an exact location from you as requested.

Regards

Helen

Helen Hamill (secretary)

m: 07825334820

Dr Donal OCofaigh (press officer)

m*: 07375 530941*

SAVE OUR ACUTE SERVICES (SOAS) CIC.

Company number **NI694537**

On Thu, 29 Oct 2026 at 10:35, Curran Chris <Chris.Curran@westerntrust.hscni.net> wrote:

Dear Helen,

Thank you for your correspondence and for providing information regarding the feedback gathered by Save Our Acute Services. The Trust welcomes the continued interest shown by local communities in contributing views on the future of health and social care services across Fermanagh and West Tyrone.

The Trust is committed to ensuring that as many people as possible have had the opportunity to participate in this important engagement process. Throughout the programme, a wide range of engagement approaches have been utilised, including public engagement events, community meetings, stakeholder sessions, outreach activity and targeted engagement with a broad range of groups, including Section 75 representative organisations, service users, carers, staff and community representatives.

The Trust welcomes engagement from individuals, communities and representative groups and has sought throughout the programme to provide a wide range of opportunities for people to participate and have their views heard. While your correspondence notes that SOAS reproduced

the questionnaire used within the Health and Care Futures engagement process, the Trust and Project Management Office were not advised in advance that SOAS intended to undertake this activity. We would therefore welcome an opportunity to better understand the approach taken and discuss this further at a future meeting.

The Trust's engagement approach in this programme of work strongly reflects the principles of co-production, as described in the Department of Health Co-Production Guide, through our commitment to a highly person-centred approach throughout the engagement process. This has promoted genuine partnership working between people and organisations to achieve the positive, meaningful and mutually agreed approach in the design and delivery of our engagement.

As previously outlined, due to operational considerations and the current mid-term holiday period, it is not possible to facilitate receipt of materials at South West Acute Hospital, Enniskillen, on Thursday 29 or Friday 30 October. In addition, the Health and Care Futures Project Management Office is based at DBS, Omagh, and it is therefore the most appropriate location for receipt of any material relating to the programme.

To assist with arrangements, authorised Trust representatives will be available to receive the material **at DBS, Omagh, on Thursday 29 October at 2.30pm**. For clarity, the Trust can provide acknowledgement of:

- the date and time of delivery;
- the number of boxes received;

For the reason stated, and as we have had no prior information of SOAS' approach, it would not be possible for the Trust at the point of receipt to verify the number of responses contained within the boxes, confirm the validity of submissions, or provide assurance regarding how individual responses may ultimately be considered within the engagement analysis process. This is because the Trust has not been involved in the distribution, collection, handling or storage of these materials and has not yet had the opportunity to review any of the contents received.

As previously outlined, once the material has been received and the Trust has had an opportunity to undertake an initial review, we would welcome a meeting with representatives of the SOAS Committee to discuss a number of matters relating to the collection and management of the information.

As a public body, the Trust is required to ensure that all information received as part of engagement activities is managed in accordance with appropriate governance, information management and data protection requirements. For that reason, we would welcome an opportunity to discuss matters previously highlighted regarding methodology, governance arrangements, data handling, consent processes, information sharing arrangements and any other issues necessary to fully understand the provenance and context of the submissions received.

We believe such a discussion would be constructive and would help ensure a shared understanding of the information provided. It would also provide an opportunity to discuss the extensive programme of engagement undertaken by the Trust across Fermanagh and West Tyrone, including engagement with communities, service users, carers, staff, elected representatives, community organisations and Section 75 groups, all of which has been undertaken to support development of the future vision for health and care services across the area.

We hope this clarifies the arrangements and we look forward to hearing from you,

Regards,

Shane Breen, Assistant Director of ICS (Integrated Care Systems) and
Chris Curran, Senior Communications Manager and Public Affairs Lead
(Project Management Office, Fermanagh and West Tyrone Health and Care Futures)

Address for delivery of Surveys:

- FWT Health and Care Futures Project Management Office
  DBS, Tyrone and Fermanagh Hospital Site,
  7 Donaghanie Road,
  Omagh,
  County Tyrone
  BT79 0NS

Click here for Google Maps Pin for Location: https://maps.apple/p/9Ys7Qi3nUEdT6P

To note regarding points raised:

- Parking at DBS area can be impacted by live clinics in nearby buildings and would depend on the day.
- Our base is the Project Management Office which serves the wider Fermanagh and West Tyrone area.

From: soas.swah@gmail.com <soas.swah@gmail.com>
Sent: 28 October 2026 16:51
To: Curran Chris <Chris.Curran@westerntrust.hscni.net>; Breen Shane <Shane.Breen@westerntrust.hscni.net>
Cc: McGinley Madonna <Madonna.McGinley@westerntrust.hscni.net>
Subject: RE: Survey
Importance: High

28th October 2026

By email

To: Shane Breen and Chris Curran

Western Health and Social Care Trust

Subject: URGENT — arrangements for receipt of community responses on Thursday 29 October

Dear Shane and Chris,

Thank you for your email of 27th October, responding to our correspondence of 23rd October.

Over the last few weeks, Save Our Acute Services (SOAS) has been active in raising awareness of, and encouraging participation in, the Western Trust's Health and Care Futures Vision engagement, particularly given the significance attached to this work by the Minister of Health.

We have collected a large number of responses completed by members of the public which need to be properly recorded and duly considered by the Trust.

You will share our awareness of the rural challenges experienced by our community: its ageing demographic profile and the difficulties faced by people living with limiting health conditions. These are compounded by structural inequalities associated with inadequate telecommunications, roads and public transport.

We are particularly conscious that many people experience **digital exclusion** because of educational disadvantage, poverty, location or difficulty using online services.

We were therefore concerned about the emphasis placed on online participation and the risk of excluding an important section of our community, including people living furthest from inpatient emergency general surgery.

We subsequently became aware that your staff distributed and accepted paper questionnaires at engagement events. We welcome this. To promote wider participation, we adopted the same approach, reproducing and distributing **your exact questionnaire** using your questions and format.

Members of the public and health and social care workers asked SOAS for guidance. We therefore provided indicative replies, while encouraging people throughout to amend, add to or replace these with their own views. We are being explicit about this so that the Trust can understand the circumstances in which responses were gathered. We also, importantly, encouraged the public to make survey responses without indicative answers to facilitate that cohort.

Similarly, we encouraged people to fill in the questionnaire online.

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council supported this effort by accommodating access to the public through council-owned community facilities, including in the Omagh area.

SOAS volunteers also distributed questionnaires and collected community responses at shops, community centres, sports and community events. The responses have now been collected, counted and boxed.

These are responses specifically to the Trust's engagement questions, collected with SOAS's assistance—not a separate set of survey questions devised by SOAS. Each submission represents a person's contribution to YOUR survey and should be recorded and considered accordingly.

We note your **request for information about our approach**, including distribution, collection, handling and relevant governance arrangements. We are willing to explain these and meet to discuss any specific questions. Please distinguish that discussion from the immediate administrative receipt of the material before your closing date. Any further queries should be identified promptly and **should not prevent timely receipt and registration**.

In the interests of openness, some people have also approached us with concerns after Trust engagement meetings. They say they completed and signed paper responses but were unclear about how these would be recorded, analysed or subsequently entered into an electronic system. Some were concerned that transcription might not accurately reflect their views.

We do not suggest that electronic transcription is inherently improper. We ask you to explain the arrangements for preserving original responses, checking accuracy, protecting personal information and preventing duplicate counting. This would help us answer the concerns raised.

SOAS focuses on representing the concerns and rights of the SWAH catchment population. We are extremely disappointed that you will not arrange receipt of these completed responses at SWAH and instead require our volunteers to travel to Omagh.

For some members of our rural community, this can involve a round trip of up to three hours. We consider this unreasonable and likely to reinforce concerns about the Trust's understanding of rurality, peripherality and the practical barriers to participation.

We ask you to reconsider and arrange an authorised representative to receive the material at SWAH.

However, if you maintain your refusal, we are **willing, reluctantly and under protest, to travel to Omagh** to ensure that these voices are not excluded by the deadline. This should not be taken as acceptance that the arrangements are reasonable.

We note the delivery window you have offered: Thursday 29 October, between 2.30pm and 5pm, at the Health and Care Futures Project Management Office, DBS, 7 Donaghanie Road, Omagh BT79 0NR.

Please confirm by return, and no later than 10am on Thursday 29th October:

1. The precise handover time within that window.
2. The full building name, what "DBS" refers to, and the entrance, reception or room we should attend.
3. Vehicle access, parking and unloading arrangements.
4. The name, role and direct telephone number of the authorised receiving officer, with a backup contact.
5. That the officer will sign a receipt recording the delivery date, time, number of boxes and the response count supplied by SOAS, subject to subsequent verification.
6. That the material will be registered as received before the deadline and retained for consideration within the engagement process, with any specific concerns notified to us rather than responses being silently excluded.

Please also provide a clear explanation of how these paper responses will be logged, analysed and reflected in the published findings.

We will respond separately to your statement about the relationship between the current engagement and future consultation.

For present purposes, the urgent priority is a clear, secure and properly acknowledged handover of the community's responses.

Respectfully yours,

Helen Hamill

Secretary, on behalf of the SOAS Committee

From: Curran Chris <Chris.Curran@westerntrust.hscni.net>
Sent: 27 October 2026 15:54
To: SOAS Press <soas.swah@gmail.com>; Breen Shane <Shane.Breen@westerntrust.hscni.net>
Cc: McGinley Madonna <Madonna.McGinley@westerntrust.hscni.net>
Subject: RE: Survey

Dear Helen,

Thank you for your email and for sharing information about the survey exercise undertaken by Save Our Acute Services (SOAS).

The Trust remains committed to listening to a wide range of views through the Fermanagh and West Tyrone Health and Care Futures programme. The views and experiences of local people, service users, staff and stakeholders are an important part of developing our understanding of the future health and social care needs of the area.

We believe the most constructive next step would be for Trust representatives and SOAS representatives to meet. This would provide an opportunity to hear more about the survey, discuss the approach taken and consider how the information gathered might contribute to the wider evidence base being developed through the Health and Care Futures programme.

The Health and Care Futures programme is an engagement exercise intended to inform the development of a long-term vision for health and social care services across Fermanagh and West Tyrone. Throughout 2026, we have been engaging extensively with local people, service users, staff and stakeholders to understand their experiences, priorities and perspectives, alongside the challenges and opportunities facing services in the future.

It is important to distinguish this work from any future formal consultation process. The current engagement is neither a public consultation nor a pre-consultation exercise and is separate from any consultation that may subsequently arise in relation to specific proposals for service change.

As the SOAS survey was undertaken independently of the Trust, any consideration of the information gathered would need to be informed by a clearer understanding of the survey process. This would include its objectives and methodology, how participants were recruited, how responses were collected and managed, and the governance, consent and data protection arrangements that applied. These are matters that we would welcome the opportunity to discuss directly with the SOAS Executive Committee.

We would therefore be pleased to arrange a meeting and would be grateful if you could advise of suitable dates and availability.

Delivery of SOAS survey material to the Trust

In relation to the delivery of the survey material, we note the urgency highlighted in your correspondence. South West Acute Hospital is not an appropriate location for receipt of this information and hospital staff would not be in a position to accept delivery on behalf of the Health and Care Futures programme.

The Project Management Office supporting the programme has a significant programme of engagement activity scheduled through to the formal closing date of 31 October 2026. Given current operational arrangements, any delivery would therefore need to be made directly to the

Health and Care Futures Project Management Office at DBS, 7 Donaghanie Road, Omagh BT79 0NR.

Should SOAS wish to deliver the material this week, the available opportunity is between **2.30pm and 5.00pm on Thursday 29 October 2026** at DBS, Omagh. Arrangements are not in place for South West Acute Hospital to receive or accept delivery on behalf of the programme.

Regards

Shane Breen, Assistant Director of ICS (Integrated Care Systems) and

Chris Curran, Senior Communications Manager and Public Affairs Lead

(Project Management Office, Fermanagh and West Tyrone Health and Care Futures)

From: SOAS Press <soas.swah@gmail.com>
Sent: 23 October 2026 09:53
To: Curran Chris <Chris.Curran@westerntrust.hscni.net>; Breen Shane <Shane.Breen@westerntrust.hscni.net>
Cc: McGinley Madonna <Madonna.McGinley@westerntrust.hscni.net>
Subject: Survey

CAUTION - EXTERNAL EMAIL
Do not click on links or attachments that are not expected

Never trust - always verify

Stay Alert - Think before you Click - Stop a potential Cyber Attack

Shane, Chris,

I'm making Contact to coordinate what time will suit you on Thursday of next week on Thursday, the 29th of October to handover "survey responses" Well, in advance of the 31st of October deadline.

These are the responses to your vision, " your Health and Care future".

These responses include non-digitally aware members of this community which includes cross-section of the section 75 groups. We want to ensure that they are accepted and will Be asking for you to sign off that their voices will be accepted as part of your process.

We have copied Madonna on the off chance that either or indeed both of you maybe on leave and possibly wouldn't receive this.

Obviously, we will require to hand these over in the south acute hospital

Please come back with times that suit on Thursday and we will coordinate and ensure that these are delivered.

Regards

Helen

Helen Hamill (secretary)

m: 07825334820

Dr Donal OCofaigh (press officer)

m*: 07375 530941*

SAVE OUR SERVICES S.W.A.H. CIC

Company number **NI694537**