

HEALTH BOSSES' TRAVEL EXPENSES

No answers to questions over Delgado

Seanin Graham
Health Correspondent

REPEATED requests to a health trust for invoices and costs relating to Pedro Delgado's overseas trips have failed to produce any answers.

The South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust has con-

firmed that it holds the "information on transactions" for the HSC Safety Forum – the organisation which paid for Mr Delgado's course fees and travel – up until August of this year.

However, the trust's communication manager said it was unable to provide the travel and courses' costs for one individual member of staff as

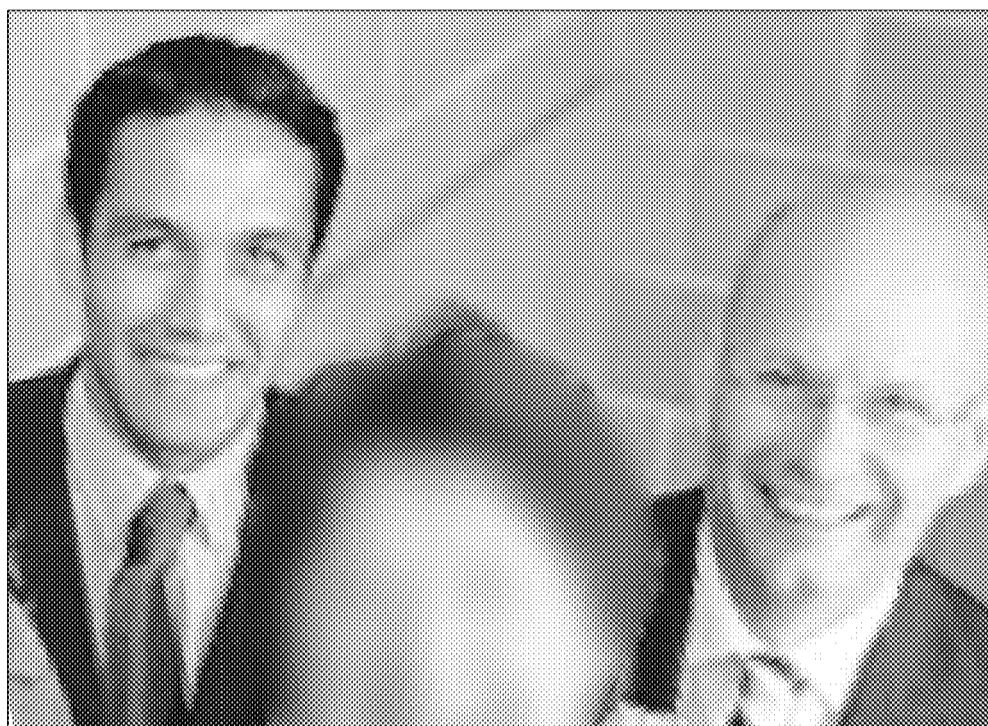
this would require a "full manual review of all invoices paid from their department".

"To do this would require excessive cost," she added.

When asked if they could provide details on the hotel costs for Mr Delgado, the trust's communication manager said that they "would need details" of the "relevant hotel/organisation to separately identify costs of conferences/seminars".

The Irish News was able to provide the trust with a list of the countries Mr Delgado travelled to for training and the year in which the courses took place – however, the trust was still unable to confirm costings for these trips.

The trust's communication manager said it was unable to provide the travel and courses' costs for one individual member of staff as this would require a "full manual review of all invoices paid from their department"



RECORDS: Pedro Delgado with John Compton, former chief executive of the South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust

The communications manager was able to confirm, however, that Mr John Compton, the former chief executive of the south eastern trust, approved Mr Delgado's trips prior to 2008.

When a director of the safety forum was appointed (Dr

Noeleen Devaney) in 2008, she subsequently approved all spending for training.

The trust provided detailed information on the benefit of the courses taken by Mr Delgado to the Northern Ireland Health Service.

Following a third request to

the trust press office for the costs bill for Mr Delgado, the communications manager sent through 12 pages of invoices relating to Mr Delgado's claims for mileage, taxis and subsistence expenses within Northern Ireland – but with no reference to overseas trips.

Half Price offer of the week

Half price, so double the guest list.
Add some sparkle to your Christmas with our half price offers on Louis Chaurey Champagne and selected smoked salmon and prawns.

YOUR M&S
Quality worth every penny

drinkaware.co.uk
for the facts

Selected UK stores only. See in store for details. Subject to availability. Prices may vary in selected stores. Champagne offer began 6th December 2010. Smoked salmon and prawn offer began 12th December 2010. These offers end 1st January 2011. Over 18s only. Please drink responsibly. Serving suggestion only. © Marks and Spencer plc.