



**East London**  
NHS Foundation Trust  
**Information Governance**  
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24 September 2024

**Our reference: FOI DA5594**

I am responding to your request for information received 10 September 2024 and clarified on 20 September. This has been treated as a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am now enclosing a response which is attached to the end of this letter. Please do not hesitate to contact me on the contact details above if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

Information Rights Coordinator

If you are dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your FOIA request then you should contact us and we will arrange for an internal review of this decision.

If you remain dissatisfied with the decision following our response to your complaint, you may write to the Information Commissioner for a decision under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113  
Web: [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

**Please note that the data supplied is not allowed to be re-used and/or published without the explicit consent of East London NHS Foundation Trust. Please contact the signatory to request permission if this is your intention**



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**Chief Executive Officer:** Lorraine Sunduza  
**Chair:** Eileen Taylor

**Request:** Data on NHS Infrastructure and Patient Care (2019-2024).  
Please answer all questions that are relevant to your Trust. If any of the requested data is already available publicly, please provide links to the relevant information. If some data is unavailable for the entire period (2019-2024), please provide the most recent data available.

**FOI Questions on NHS Infrastructure; Hospital Repairs, Backlog, and Investments (2019-2024)**

**Clarification:** We are only requesting the waiting times for acute services. If this falls outside the scope of your work, we'd appreciate it if you could assist us with just part one, answering only questions 1 to 3.

**Building Age and Infrastructure Risks**

**Question 1.1:** For each year from 2019 to 2024, how many hospital buildings under your Trust were identified as being in urgent need of repair due to their age? Please also include the age of each building.

**Answer:** The Trust has reviewed question 1.1 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 22 of the FOI Act states:

*(1) Information is exempt information if—*

*(a) the information is held by the public authority with a view to its publication, by the authority or any other person, at some future date (whether determined or not), (b) the information was already held with a view to such publication at the time when the request for information was made,*

The National Estates Returns Information Collection (ERIC) report will be published by NHS England in October, and will be available to view online in due course. The Trust is therefore unable to provide a response.

The report will be published here:

<https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/estates-returns-information-collection>

**Question 1.2:** For each hospital building under your Trust, what specific infrastructure risks were identified (e.g., structural deficiencies, malfunctioning equipment, fire safety hazards, etc.)?

**Answer:** The Trust has reviewed question 1.2 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 22 of the FOI Act states:

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**Question 1.3: How much funding has been allocated for the maintenance and repair of ageing hospital buildings under your Trust over the past five years?**

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 1.3 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

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**Annual Backlog of Repairs in NHS Hospitals**

**Question 2.1: Please provide the total cost of the backlog of repairs for hospital buildings under your Trust, broken down by year for the period 2019 to 2024.**

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 2.1 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 22 of the FOI Act states:

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**Question 2.2: Could you also break down these costs into the following risk categories, for each year:**

- **High Risk and Critical Repairs: What is the estimated cost to eradicate high-risk backlog maintenance in hospital buildings under your Trust from 2019 to 2024?**



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- **Moderate and Low Risk Repairs: What is the estimated cost to eradicate non-critical repairs in hospital buildings under your Trust for the same period?**

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 2.2 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

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## Major Infrastructure Failures

**Question 3.1: From 2019 to 2024, have there been any significant failures in hospital infrastructure within your Trust, such as structural problems, mechanical breakdowns, fires, etc., related to repair backlogs? Please provide details for each occurrence, including:**

- **The type of failure (e.g., structural issues, mechanical breakdowns, fires, etc.).**
- **The date the failure occurred.**

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 3.1 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 22 of the FOI Act states:

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## FOI Questions on Waiting Times, Bed/Admission Capacity, Maternity Units, and Mortuary Space (2019-2024)

**Clarification: We are only requesting the waiting times for acute services.**



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## Trolley Waits and Corridor Waits

- Question 4:** Could you provide the number of patients who faced "trolley waits" or "corridor waits" due to infrastructure issues in hospitals within your Trust for each year from 2019 to 2024? Please include the numbers for:
- Waits over 4 hours.
  - Waits over 12 hours.
  - Waits over 24 hours.

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 4 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:  
*Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled—*  
*(a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and*  
*(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to them.*

East London NHS Foundation Trust is primarily a Mental Health and Community Health Trust and as such does not provide acute services. The Trust is therefore unable to provide a response.

**Question 4.1:** Please provide the average waiting time for these patients each year.

Answer: Not applicable.

## Admission Capacity and Bed Availability

- Question 5:** For each year from 2019 to 2024, what was the average bed occupancy rate across hospitals under your Trust?
- How many days, if any, did hospitals under your Trust reach full bed capacity (100% occupancy) each year?
  - How many beds were available for admissions in hospitals under your Trust at the end of each year (2019-2024)? Where possible, please break this down by general beds, ICU beds, and A&E beds.
  - How many beds were added or removed from hospitals under your Trust during this period?

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 5 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:  
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East London NHS Foundation Trust is primarily a Mental Health and Community Health Trust and as such does not provide acute services. The Trust is therefore unable to provide a response.

## Waiting Times for Hospital Treatment

- Question 6:** For each year from 2019 to 2024, what was the total number of patients on waiting lists for hospital treatment, attributed to infrastructure failure in hospitals under your Trust?



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Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 5 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

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East London NHS Foundation Trust is primarily a Mental Health and Community Health Trust and as such does not provide acute services. The Trust is therefore unable to provide a response.

**Question 6.1: Of these patients, how many waited longer than:**

- 18 weeks (NHS target time for non-urgent referrals)?
- 26 weeks?
- 52 weeks?

Answer: Not applicable.

**Question 6.2: Could you provide the average waiting time for elective surgery or hospital treatment for each year from 2019 to 2024, attributed to infrastructure failure in hospitals under your Trust?**

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 6.2 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:  
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*(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to them.*

East London NHS Foundation Trust is primarily a Mental Health and Community Health Trust and as such does not provide acute emergency care services. The Trust is therefore unable to provide a response.

## **Mortality Due to Delays in Urgent Care**

**Question 7: For each year from 2019 to 2024, how many deaths were reported in hospitals within your Trust where delays in receiving urgent or emergency care, due to infrastructure failures, were identified as contributing factors?**

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 7 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:  
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East London NHS Foundation Trust is primarily a Mental Health and Community Health Trust and as such does not provide acute emergency care services. The Trust is therefore unable to provide a response.



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## Maternity Unit Safety and Condition

**Question 8:** Could you provide the number of maternity units within your Trust that were considered unsafe or needed urgent repairs each year from 2019 to 2024?

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 8 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

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(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to them.*

East London NHS Foundation Trust is primarily a Mental Health and Community Health Trust and as such does not provide maternity care services. The Trust is therefore unable to provide a response.

## Mortuary Space and Storage Challenges

**Question 9:** For each year from 2019 to 2024, could you provide the number of instances where mortuary storage capacity in hospitals under your Trust was exceeded?

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 9 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

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(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to them.*

East London NHS Foundation Trust is primarily a Mental Health and Community Health Trust and as such does not have mortuary space. The Trust is therefore unable to provide a response.

**Question 10:** For each year from 2019 to 2024, how many bodies were reported to have been left in inadequate storage conditions due to insufficient freezer space or other mortuary capacity issues in hospitals under your Trust?

Answer: Not applicable

**Question 11:** What is the current storage capacity for bodies in the mortuaries of hospitals under your Trust? (number of spaces available for body storage)?

Answer: Not applicable.

