



East London
NHS Foundation Trust
Information Governance
Robert Dolan House
9 Alie Street
London
E1 8DE

Email elft.foi@nhs.net
Website: <https://www.elft.nhs.uk>

22 November 2024

Our reference: FOI DA5534a

I am responding to your request for information received 26 September 2024. I am sorry for the delay in responding to your request. 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

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

Request: Thank you very much for your response. For question 2, may I also have the data for the financial year 2020/2021?



We promise to work together creatively to: learn 'what matters' to everyone, achieve a better quality of life and continuously improve our services.
We care . We respect . We are inclusive

Chief Executive Officer: Lorraine Sunduza
Chair: Eileen Taylor

Answer: Please see table below:

Mental Health transport type	Spend in Financial Year 2020/21 (£)
Internal Mental Health Transport	173,114.00
External Mental Health Transport	1,167,405.00
Total Spend	1,340,519.00



We promise to work together creatively to: learn 'what matters' to everyone, achieve a better quality of life and continuously improve our services.
We care . We respect . We are inclusive

Chief Executive Officer: Lorraine Sunduza
Chair: Eileen Taylor

Original Request FOI DA5534: I would be most grateful if you would provide me, under the Freedom of Information Act, details in respect to the below relating to the provision of Mental Health Transport services.

The details I require are:

Question 1: Do you currently use external suppliers for Mental Health Transport services?

a) If not, are you planning on using them in the future?

Question 2: For the financial years (April – March) 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24:

a) Annual spend on Mental Health Transport services by your trust, split by:

i) Internally provided

ii) Externally provided

b) The number of journeys provided by your trust, split by:

i) internally provided

ii) externally provided

Question 3: The following information regarding the current provision of Mental Health Transport services at your trust:

a) Name of the current Mental Health Transport provider(s)

b) Total contract value

c) Start date

d) End date

Question 4: If a different Mental Health Transport provider was previously used, please provide:

a) Name of the previous Mental Health Transport provider(s)

b) Reason for change

Answer: Please see attached Appendix 1.



We promise to work together creatively to: learn 'what matters' to everyone, achieve a better quality of life and continuously improve our services.
We care . We respect . We are inclusive

Chief Executive Officer: Lorraine Sunduza
Chair: Eileen Taylor

Section 1 – not held

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question X 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.

XX Insert reason for section 1 – see examples below highlighted in green XX
East London NHS Foundation Trust is primarily a Mental Health and Community Health Trust and as such does not provide [INSERT TYPE OF SERVICE] services. The Trust is therefore unable to provide a response.

East London NHS Foundation Trust does not record the information requested and is therefore unable to provide a response.

Section 8 – invalid name

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

Section 8 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

(1) In this Act any reference to a “request for information” is a reference to such a request which—
(b) states the name of the applicant and an address for correspondence

A Freedom of Information request made under the pseudonym [insert name] is invalid. Without a valid name, the Trust will not be responding to your request.

Section 12 – cost

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

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

Section 12(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit

The Trust has reviewed your request for information and in order to collate this information, it would be necessary to **INSERT PROCESS** and estimates that it would take **INSERT TIME** to collate.

Remove following paragraph if the question is under eighteen hours
Therefore, the Trust is unable to comply with this particular part of your request as the cost of compliance and extracting your exact requirements would exceed the appropriate cost limit of £450 which is specified in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This is based on a rate of £25 per hour, regardless of the rate of pay of any individual involved in the retrieval of requested information, and equates to 18 hours work.

Section 14 – recently responded

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

Section 14(2) of the FOI Act states:



We promise to work together creatively to: learn 'what matters' to everyone, achieve a better quality of life and continuously improve our services.
We care . We respect . We are inclusive

Chief Executive Officer: Lorraine Sunduza
Chair: Eileen Taylor

(2) Where a public authority has previously complied with a request for information which was made by any person, it is not obliged to comply with a subsequent identical or substantially similar request from that person unless a reasonable interval has elapsed between compliance with the previous request and the making of the current request.

The Trust recently responded to your request on [insert date here], reference DAXXXX and will therefore not be responding to this request.

Section 21 – already available

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

Section 21(1) of the FOI Act states:

(1) Information which is reasonably accessible to the applicant otherwise than under section 1 is exempt information.

The information requested is accessible here:

Question XX:

[Insert link](#)

Section 22 – Section 22 - Information intended for future publication

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question X 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 Trust [insert reason here]

Section 31 – prevention of a crime

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

Section 31(1)(a) of the FOI Act states:

31(1) Information which is not exempt information by virtue of section 30 is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice

(a) the prevention or detection of crime,

The information requested, if released into the public domain, could [insert reason, i.e. have the potential to identify weaknesses within the Trust's digital infrastructure, leaving it open to cyber threat.] For this reason an exemption has been applied.

Section 38 – health and safety

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

Section 38(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:



We promise to work together creatively to: learn 'what matters' to everyone, achieve a better quality of life and continuously improve our services.
We care . We respect . We are inclusive

Chief Executive Officer: Lorraine Sunduza
Chair: Eileen Taylor

(1) Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to —

- (a) endanger the physical or mental health of any individual, or
- (b) endanger the safety of any individual.

The Trust has reviewed your request for information and is applying section 38 of the FOI Act. Section 38 exemption applies to health and safety. As this is a qualified exemption, the public interest in withholding the information should outweigh the public interest in disclosure.

XX Insert reason for section 38 – see examples below highlighted in green XX
The Trust has applied the public interest test and, in this instance, believes disclosure of this information may have a detrimental effect on the physical or mental health of individuals XXXXXX.

Section 40 – personal information

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

Section 40 for the FOI Act states:

(2) This exemption covers the personal data of third parties (anyone other than the requester) where complying with the request would breach any of the principles in the UK GDPR.

XX Insert reason for section 40 – see examples below highlighted in green XX
The information you have requested relates to less than five individuals and has the potential for those individuals to be identified. The Trust is therefore unable to provide this information in detail.

In order to provide the information requested, it would be necessary to access patient records as the information is not held in a searchable format. There is no legal basis to access patient records for the purposes of responding to a Freedom of Information request. The Trust is therefore unable to provide a response.

Section 43 – commercial interests

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

Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

(2) Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it).

The Trust has reviewed your question as a request for information and is applying section 43 of the FOI Act. Section 43 exemption applies to commercial interests. As this is a qualified exemption, the public interest in withholding the information should outweigh the public interest in disclosure. The Trust has applied the public interest test and in this instance believes disclosure of this information insert reason here, see following example: may affect its ability to seek competitive tenders in the future and should therefore be withheld. The Trust is therefore unable to provide you with XXXXXX.

