

FOI REF: 21/030

29th January 2021

Tel: 0300 131 4500
Website: www.esht.nhs.uk

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

I am responding to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. The answers to your specific questions are as follows:

I would like to submit a freedom of information request regarding COVID -19 infection in hospital staff.

Do you keep a record of staff who have contracted COVID-19, and if so;

- 1) how many staff have contracted Covid-19 over the course of the pandemic? (Including bank /temporarily staff)**

Information on staff absences can be accessed via the link below:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/covid-19-hospital-activity/>

- 2) of that number how many have contracted it in the second wave?**

Please see above.

- 3) how many staff do you employ?**

The Trust employed 7,588 (headcount) substantive staff as at 31st December 2020.

- 4) how many of the Staff who acquired COVID 19 infections are thought to have acquired it at work?**

As we are sure you will appreciate, the Trust is facing an unprecedented challenge in managing the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Our teams do not therefore have the capacity to respond to this part of your freedom of information request during this extraordinary period and we apologise that we will not be able to respond. If you would still like the information please resubmit your request at the beginning of April.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Should you be dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your request, please write to Lynette Wells, Director of Corporate Affairs, East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust (lynette.wells2@nhs.net) quoting the above reference.

Yours sincerely

Linda Thornhill (Mrs)
Corporate Governance Manager
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