



FOI REF: 21/230

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

13th May 2021

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:

In each case, I understand that records may be incomplete, and if this is the case, I would like whatever figures are available, together with their dates, to give the most accurate view possible.

Here is what I am requesting:

- 1. The amount during each calendar year for the last five years your trust has lost to fraud and scams. This would include the year to date as one of those five years.**

Whilst the Trust holds the information requested, it is applying a Section 31(1)a exemption because disclosure of this information under the Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice the prevention or detection of crime.

The Trust considers that the release of the information would make the Trust more vulnerable to crime.

In applying the exemption consideration has been given to the public interest in enabling scrutiny of public sector decision making and the general public interest in accountability and transparency.

In this instance, we consider that the public interest in preventing the prejudice outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

2. For each fraud or scam of more than £500 the nature of the fraud or scam, particularly:
- a. The date the money was lost
 - b. How much was lost
 - c. How the money was lost - the precise methodology the scammers used
 - d. What efforts were made to reclaim the lost funds
 - e. How successful those efforts were.
 - f. Who the perpetrator was, if that is known

[Section 31\(1\)a applied, please see question 1.](#)

Should there be a large number of frauds which qualify for question 2, to the point where costs for the request are likely to over-run, I would like the details for the five largest in terms of losses, please.

[Section 31\(1\)a applied, please see question 1.](#)

For the avoidance of doubt, I am interested in losses of money due to deception. I am not requesting details of losses of money or property due to theft, burglary etc.

[Section 31\(1\)a applied, please see question 1.](#)

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
esh-tr.foi@nhs.net