

FOI REF: 22/585

11th November 2022

Eastbourne District General Hospital
Kings Drive
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 2UD

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 am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the number of sick days taken by hospital staff.

A) Please could you provide the most recent 2 full years of data, broken down by department with reasons for sickness (please exclude departments where numbers are so low they may identify staff).

I can confirm that we hold this information but, it is exempt under section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Personal Information of third parties. This is because this information may allow the identification of individual staff members due to the small number in various areas and disclosure would breach the principles of the Data Protection Act.

However, please see the attached document which shows the breakdown of sickness by Division, rather than department.

B) If timings allow, please could you also provide the cost of replacing staff off sick on these days.

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust does not centrally record the cost of replacing staff off sick. To enable the Trust to provide this information would require a manual review which we estimate would take over 40k hours. We are therefore, applying Section 12(1) to this part of your request.

Section 12(1) of the Act allows a public authority to refuse to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of compliance would exceed the 'appropriate limit', as defined by the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 (the Regulations). These state that this cost limit is £450 for public authorities which are not part of central government or the armed forces. The costs are calculated at £25 per hour per person regardless of the rate of pay, which means that the limit will be exceeded if the work involved would exceed 18 hours. The Trust estimates that the cost of complying with this request would significantly exceed the above limit.

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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, you have the right to request an internal review. Please write to the Freedom of Information Department (esh-tr.foi@nhs.net), quoting the above reference, within 40 working days. The Trust is not obliged to accept an internal review after this date.

Should you still be dissatisfied with your FOI request, you have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner at the following address:

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

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely

Linda Thornhill (Mrs)
Corporate Governance Manager
esh-tr.foi@nhs.net

FOI 22/585 - East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust, Calendar Days Lost between 1st October 2020 to 30th September 2022

Source:ESR Individual Absence Record 1st October 2020 - 30th September 2022.

Showing prorata'd calendar days lost by Division and reason

Divisions used as Depts potentially would breach confidentiality. Small Divisions (<10 staff) omitted

Division key	Comprises :
Chief Operating Officer	Senior Clinical Management, Emergency Planning, Discharge & Site Mgmt Teams
Community Health & Integrated Care Division	Community Services, Therapies, District Nursing Teams etc.
Core Services Division	Pathology, Radiology, Pharmacy, Outpatients etc.
Covid-19	Covid-19 service teams
Diagnostics, Anaesthetics & Surgery Division	Surgical Specialties, Anaesthetics & Theatres teams
Estates & Facilities	Housekeeping, Portering, Catering, Estates teams etc
Finance & IT	Finance & IT staff
Human Resources	Human Resources staff
Medical Director	Bereavement staff, Revalidation, GIRFT (benchmarking), R&D
Medicine Division	Medicine Specialties
Nursing & Governance	Senior Nursing staff, Safeguarding Teams, Chaplaincy, Risk, Infection Control, Health & Safety etc.
Strategy	Strategy, Communications, Patient Liaison etc
Sussex Premier Health	Private Patients services
Urgent Care Division	A&E services
Womens & Childrens Health	Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Paediatrics, Midwifery, Audiology, Health Visiting

Division	S10 Anxiety/stress/d epression/other psychiatric illnesses	S11 Back Problems	S12 Other musculosk keletal problems	S13 Cold, Cough, Flu - Influenza	S14 Asthma	S15 Chest & respiratory problems	S16 Headache / migraine	S17 Benign and malignant tumours, cancers	S18 Blood disorders
Chief Operating Officer Total	192	132	220	75	0	368	36	0	0
Community Health & Integrated Care Division Total	6,740	1,968	4,227	2,092	130	12,531	821	1,274	273
Core Services Division Total	3,837	795	2,376	1,424	38	6,222	656	435	12
Covid-19 Total	40	10	252	14	0	167	6	0	0
Diagnostics, Anaesthetics & Surgery Division Total	5,448	2,343	5,981	1,761	108	10,768	1,029	635	77
Estates & Facilities Total	3,890	1,238	3,565	1,040	39	4,537	352	393	270
Finance & IT Total	756	283	260	222	0	1,005	128	0	0
Human Resources Total	612	24	32	239	3	1,624	80	0	0
Medical Director Total	228	2	2	20	0	195	11	0	0
Medicine Division Total	5,977	2,004	5,915	2,155	154	13,305	1,059	833	429
Nursing & Governance Total	80	2	16	26	2	170	18	0	0
Strategy Total	51	11	325	41	15	125	6	0	0
Sussex Premier Health Total	124	40	4	65	0	167	4	113	0
Urgent Care Division Total	1,801	657	777	404	8	2,089	297	262	0
Womens & Childrens Health Total	6,988	1,275	2,213	1,170	88	6,276	577	942	69
Grand Total	36,769	10,784	26,165	10,750	590	59,569	5,081	4,887	1,130

Division	S19 Heart, cardiac & circulatory problems	S20 Burns, poisoning, frostbite, hypothermia	S21 Ear, nose, throat (ENT)	S22 Dental and oral problems	S23 Eye problems	S24 Endocrine / glandular problems	S25 Gastrointestinal problems	S26 Genitourinary & gynaecological disorders	S27 Infectious diseases
Chief Operating Officer Total	2	0	11	12	9	0	53	40	0
Community Health & Integrated Care Division Total	612	5	917	160	184	286	2,842	1,240	72
Core Services Division Total	370	0	540	96	187	44	1,311	982	60
Covid-19 Total	1	0	32	6	0	0	28	48	0
Diagnostics, Anaesthetics & Surgery Division Total	637	32	644	265	145	178	2,293	1,389	52
Estates & Facilities Total	174	29	415	147	181	0	2,034	802	66
Finance & IT Total	6	1	72	19	93	13	295	84	11
Human Resources Total	31	0	77	30	5	0	319	156	11
Medical Director Total	0	0	0	9	3	18	21	2	0
Medicine Division Total	891	37	753	291	228	80	2,739	1,568	58
Nursing & Governance Total	1	0	24	1	45	0	36	21	0
Strategy Total	12	0	5	8	3	0	9	41	0
Sussex Premier Health Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	39	2	0
Urgent Care Division Total	357	0	251	72	28	7	668	299	51
Womens & Childrens Health Total	478	7	374	127	91	18	1,192	580	102
Grand Total	3,572	111	4,115	1,243	1,202	644	13,882	7,254	483

Division	S28 Injury, fracture	S29 Nervous system disorders	S30 Pregnancy related disorders	S31 Skin disorders	S32 Substance abuse	S98 Other known causes - not elsewhere classified	S99 Unknown causes / Not specified	Grand Total
Chief Operating Officer Total	7	0	0	2	0	202	21	1,382
Community Health & Integrated Care Division Total	1,180	1,475	966	286	2	3,988	1,046	45,317
Core Services Division Total	999	25	249	49	0	2,205	282	23,194
Covid-19 Total	27	1	0	0	0	36	1	669
Diagnostics, Anaesthetics & Surgery Division Total	1,574	127	1,222	606	0	5,166	1,873	44,353
Estates & Facilities Total	862	39	519	229	17	1,429	411	22,678
Finance & IT Total	172	7	34	6	0	760	65	4,292
Human Resources Total	146	3	93	20	0	521	53	4,079
Medical Director Total	0	0	0	4	0	429	4	948
Medicine Division Total	1,677	92	2,020	300	0	3,798	1,195	47,558
Nursing & Governance Total	159	0	0	0	0	88	83	772
Strategy Total	0	0	0	0	0	103	1	756
Sussex Premier Health Total	40	0	2	0	0	54	62	716
Urgent Care Division Total	289	1	639	78	0	871	128	10,034
Womens & Childrens Health Total	657	92	566	91	0	2,690	892	27,555
Grand Total	7,789	1,862	6,310	1,671	19	22,340	6,117	234,339