

FOI REF: 22/701

20th December 2022

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:

1. How many staff vacancies exist at the DGH currently

The latest figure for DGH vacancies, as at 31 October 2022, is 223.4 full time equivalents.

2. The number of patients waiting for elective care in East Sussex currently

I can confirm that we hold the information requested above. However, the information is exempt from disclosure under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This is because the information is accessible to you, as it is already in the public domain, via the following link:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/rtt-waiting-times/rtt-data-2022-23/>

This is an absolute exemption and there is, therefore, no requirement to consider the public interest.

3. Any further details about the new elective care centre to be built in Eastbourne. In particular any information about whether this centre will be run by the Trust or another organisation.

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust (ESHT) is planning a new elective care centre comprising four operating theatres, recovery and supporting facilities on the site of the Eastbourne District General Hospital. The centre will be run by ESHT.

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

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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
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