

EIR REF: 23/239

10<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Tel: 0300 131 4500

Website: [www.esht.nhs.uk](http://www.esht.nhs.uk)

## ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION REGULATIONS ACT

I am responding to your request for information under the Environmental Information Regulations Act (EIR). The answers to your specific questions are as follows:

**In consideration of the climate crisis, I would like to request the following information about how the organisation is enabling staff to reduce their emissions through sustainable transport, and more specifically, cycling.**

**1) over the past five years, broken down by year –**

**a) how many staff members used the Cycle to Work scheme?**

[Please see attached document.](#)

**b) what percentage of staff was this?**

[East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust \(ESHT\) employ over 7,000 staff. The percentage of applicants against this number is less than 0.6%.](#)

**c) what was the average value of the vouchers claimed on the scheme?**

[Please see attached document.](#)

**d) what was the number of those who took up the scheme, who then failed to complete, leaving the Council with costs?**

[Please see attached document.](#)

Cont.../

**2) what tools does the organisation use to encourage cycling for their staff –**

**a) on a work basis**

ESHT offer staff two cycle to work schemes, free cycle maintenance and cycle proficiency training. Cycling is promoted via road shows and online information.

**b) on a leisure/health basis**

The free cycle maintenance session allows staff to bring all owned bikes, including those used by family members.

**3) with regards to staff, does the organisation –**

**a) have any monitoring for what modes of transport staff use –**

**i) for their journey to work**

In the last year a new parking permit scheme has been introduced which collects data about each applicant's commute, including home postcode and main place of work and vehicles used. Work to estimate mileage and carbon emissions in progress but not finished.

The Trust has recently carried out a comprehensive travel to work survey on staff, patients and visitors.

**ii) for journeys during work time**

Travel data is recorded in detail for pool car use, which is all business travel. Other data can be collected from travel expense claims, but only total mileage.

**b) and if this data is recorded, I request a copy of such data as detailed as it can be reasonably given, while still protecting personal data rights**

**Estimated total mileage 2022/23:**

ESHT Fleet (Couriers, Estates, Pool Cars etc):	492,000
ESHT Staff Travel Expense Claims:	1,873,000

4) how many of the following does the organisation have available for staff use

- |                             |                                    |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| a) pedal cycles             | 0                                  |
| b) electric bikes           | 0                                  |
| c) motorbikes               | 0                                  |
| d) internal combustion cars | 2 (Community Pool Cars)            |
| e) electric or hybrid cars  | 10 (Business use Pool Cars)        |
| f) internal combustion vans | 15 (Couriers and department use)   |
| g) electric or hybrid vans  | 0 (but working on electrification) |
| h) heavy trucks             | 0                                  |

5) does the organisation mileage scheme clearly state the claim rate for cycling

Yes, the rate is stated on the Trust intranet on the page about travel expenses.

6) how many cycling miles have been claimed by the organisation's staff in the past five years

A total of 2,950 miles have been claimed over the last 5 years.

7) Regarding your current cycle to work scheme –

a) what scheme is currently in place

The Trust offers staff two schemes: Cycle Scheme and Green Commute Initiative.

b) what is the maximum limit on the cost of a bike, if a limit is currently in place

Cycle Scheme (for all bikes): Payment ceiling of £2,000. Repayment terms of up to 18 months.

Green Commute Initiative (for electric bikes only): Payment ceiling of £5,000. Repayment terms of up to 24 months.

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](mailto: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 EIR 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 faithfully

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

**EIR 23/239 - East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust**

Financial Year	Cycle Scheme			Green Commute Initiative		
	No. of Applications	Ave. Value of Voucher £	Left the Scheme Prior to End	No. of Applications	Ave. Value of Voucher £	Left the Scheme Prior to End
2018/19	29	694.43	0	0	-	0
2019/20	37	759.07	0	0	-	0
2020/21	42	913.24	0	10	1,933.50	0
2021/22	27	1,119.28	0	5	2,604.24	0
2022/23	40	1,257.17	0	4	2,486.00	0

Provided Green Commute Initiative to ESHT staff from 2020/21

Number of applications only include staff who used their voucher. Staff who withdrew or were declined, not included in count.