



FOI REF: 23/396

13th July 2023

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:

It was mentioned at the Trust Board meeting on the 13th June that the services of PA Consulting were being received by the Trust. Since January of this year payments totalling c£240k have been made to PA Consulting and I would like to understand what work they have been undertaking within the Trust, what their terms of reference were excluding anything of a sensitive commercial nature and the expected deliverables or outcomes from their work for the Trust?

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust does not recognise the value quoted above.

We are applying a section 22 exemption in respect of the work being undertaken, as the data is intended for publication at a future date.

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 withholding the information is greater than the public interest in disclosing the information.

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.

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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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