

FOI REF: 23/584a

27th October 2023

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:

1) Is your trust a current member of the Stonewall Diversity Champions scheme?

No.

2) Is your trust a current member of the Stonewall Workplace Equality scheme? If so, please provide a copy of the most recent employer feedback report.

No.

3) Has your trust been assessed as part of phase 2 of the NHS Rainbow Badge scheme? If the answer is no, you may disregard the subsequent questions.

Yes.

4) What overall level was the trust awarded - bronze, silver, gold or initial stage?

Bronze.

5) Please provide a copy of the final assessment report received.

Under section 36, the Trust does not plan to release the full report until the content has been reviewed by the Trust's leadership team. The report has only recently been received by the Trust and therefore once considered and next steps agreed we will re-consider the request to release the report, and this will be done by the end of December.

Section 36(2)(b)(ii) of the FOI Act states that information is exempt from disclosure if, in the reasonable opinion of a qualified person disclosure would, or would be likely to, inhibit the free and frank exchange of views for the purposes of deliberation.

We acknowledge the general public interest in disclosure of information and the need for public bodies to be open and transparent regarding their decisions. However, the matters described above would be likely to affect the internal working of ESHT and therefore the quality of our decisions and effectiveness.

Cont.../

6) If your trust produced an action plan in response to the assessment report, please provide a copy of that.

Not applicable.

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