

FOI REF: 23/610

10th October 2023

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 request information regarding pest control measures at your NHS Trust's hospital sites over the last five years.

Specifically, I would like to obtain the following data:

- 1) The total number of times exterminators or pest control services were called at each hospital between 2018 and 2023 to date.**

[Please see attached document.](#)

- 2) A detailed breakdown of the reasons or specific pest issues that led to the calls for exterminators during this period and the actions exterminators and pest control took to remedy this.**

[Please see attached document.](#)

- 3) The total cost incurred, broken down by hospital, for pest control services, including the costs of removing pests, shooting pigeons, and other related expenses in the timeframe.**

[Whilst the Trust holds the information requested, it is applying a Section 43\(2\) exemption in relation to this part of the request as the release of the information is likely to prejudice its commercial interests.](#)

[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.](#)

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We have concluded that sharing the costs could cause harm to the Trust as this may affect and adversely influence any future tendering exercise, therefore increasing our costs and not gaining best value for money.

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.

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 23/610 - East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust

Site	Date of call	Pest
EDGH	05/2018	Bed Bugs
	07/2018	Wasps
	08/2018	Bed Bugs
	12/2018	Bed Bugs
	08/2019	Wasp
	08/2020	Wasp
	06/2020	Rodents
	09/2020	Wasp
	01/2021	Cockroaches black at residences
	09/2021	Wasp nest at memorial tree and Burma road
	04/2022	Rodents
	07/2022	Wasps nest at residences
	07/2022	Pick up dead bird from external area opposite canteen
	08/2022	Wasps nest flagpole outside main entrance
	08/2022	2 x wasps nest banes
	08/2022	Wasp nest various at residences
	08/2022	Urgent cockroaches in A&E results dept
	08/2022	2 wasps nest
	09/2022	2 wasps nest next to taxi rank
	09/2022	Wasps nest at duncan house
	10/2022	3 ultrabaits between estates and laundry buildings
	01/2022	Rodents in main kitchen
	06/2023	Flies flat at residences
08/2023	Bird caught in courtyard net ASAP	
09/2023	Bird fouling clean in courtyard by pharmacy	
Arthur Blackman Clinic	07/2021	Ants in dental surgery
	06/2022	Ants infestation surgery 3
	07/2022	Ants in ground floor dental surgery
Bexhill Hospital	02/2018	Dead pigeon Removal
	05/2018	Ants
	09/2019	Spider
Rye Memorial	02/2018	Ants
	03/2018	Ants
	03/2018	Ants
	03/2018	Ants
	04/2018	Ants
	04/2018	Ants
	05/2018	Ants
	08/2018	Ants
	09/2018	Mice
	12/2018	Rodents
	05/2019	Ants
	07/2019	Rodents
	07/2020	Rodents
	04/2020	Ants

Site	Date of call	Pest
Unit 10 Wheel Farm Business	07/2018	Rodents
	07/2023	Wasps nest
Conquest Hospital	05/2018	Ants
	12/2018	Rodents
	04/2019	Rodent
	04/2019	Rodent
	04/2019	Pigeon
	07/2019	Pigeon
	07/2019	Wasps
	07/2019	Rodents
	08/2019	Mice
	08/2019	Rodents
	10/2019	Bird
	12/2019	Wasps
	01/2020	Rodents
	05/2020	Bird
	06/2020	Rodents
	07/2020	Rodents
	07/2020	Bird
	02/2021	Magpie through netting / flying fish pond level 1
	03/2021	Mink has returned eating fish
	04/2021	Ants in wellington ward
	04/2021	Ants benson ward room 1
	04/2021	Rollow up on rodents nursery
	06/2021	2 pigeons in the resturant over the weekend
	06/2021	Mouse seen Murray Ward level 1
	06/2021	2 pigeons in staff restaurant
	07/2021	Wasps at Attenborough ward on the balcony
	07/2021	Hoverflies and ants,
	07/2021	Mouse spotted on mirrlees ward
	09/2021	Pigeon flying around the restaurant
	11/2021	Remove wasps nest from spire courtyard
	08/2022	Wasps nest outside outpatient department partment
	08/2022	Wasps nest in hospital accomodation family flat
	11/2022	Pigeon stuck in netting courtyard
12/2022	Urgent bird stuck in netting	
05/2023	Pigeon stuck in netting courtyard	
06/2023	Brown tail moth treatment	