

FOI REF: 24/063

15<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Eastbourne District General Hospital

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## 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:

**My request relates to finding out if all NHS staff are supposed to have mandatory training in how autistic and people with learning difficulties present in hospital.**

**I would like to request the following information:**

- 1) What percentage of NHS staff in your trust have received training on how patients with autism and learning difficulties present in hospital?**

The Oliver McGowan eLearning package was mandated for all Trust staff with effect from 2nd February 2024. Current compliance is 11.54%.

- 2) How long is the waiting list for training NHS staff in your trust on how patients with autism and learning difficulties present in hospital?**

**(Please give in days, weeks or months.)**

Not applicable – no taught courses available.

- 3) How often is training for NHS staff in your trust provided in how autistic and people with learning difficulties present in hospital?**

Every 3 years, however we are waiting for national guidance as to the frequency, as this forms part of the new Health and Social Care Act 2022.

- 4) Do you have any plans in place to train all NHS staff in your trust within the next 12 months in relation to how autistic and people with learning difficulties present in hospital?**

As this will be a 3 yearly renewal, we would aim to train 33% per annum to ensure we have a viable training plan.

Cont.../

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 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

Freedom of Information Department  
[esh-tr.foi@nhs.net](mailto:esh-tr.foi@nhs.net)