

EIR REF: 24/159

Eastbourne District General Hospital

Kings Drive
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 2UD

18th March 2024

Tel: 0300 131 4500

Website: www.esht.nhs.uk

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION REGULATIONS ACT

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

As part of my research, I am looking to monitor trends across multiple Trusts to establish the way in which different healthcare settings manage their waste services, in relation to the NHS's advertised push towards Net Zero carbon emissions.

As such, can I please request through Freedom of Information the following information:

1. The amount of waste generated within the last year for each of the below categories:

<input type="radio"/> General	659.9 tonne.
<input type="radio"/> Recycling	275.3 tonne.
<input type="radio"/> Food Waste	84.1 tonne.
<input type="radio"/> Confidential	98.8 tonne.
<input type="radio"/> High Temperature Incineration (clinical)	323.2 tonne.
<input type="radio"/> Alternative Treatment (clinical)	415.7 tonne.
<input type="radio"/> Offensive (clinical)	521.7 tonne.

2. The amount of waste Spend within the last year for each of the below categories:

- General**
- Recycling**
- Food Waste**
- Confidential**
- High Temperature Incineration (clinical)**
- Alternative Treatment (clinical)**
- Offensive (clinical)**

Cont.../

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.

We have concluded that sharing commercials could disadvantage the incumbent supplier against their competitors. The information could provide competitors with the suppliers pricing, which could result in these suppliers obtaining a competitive advantage which could result in the Trust not obtaining 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.

3. **Contract Start Dates for:**

- **General Waste Services** 1st August 2018.
- **Recycling Services** 1st August 2018.
- **Food Waste Services** 1st January 2022.
- **Confidential Services** 1st April 2020.
- **High Temperature Incineration (clinical) Services** 1st February 2019.
- **Alternative Treatment (clinical) Services** 1st February 2019.
- **Offensive (clinical) Services** 1st January 2019.

4. **Contract End Dates for:**

- **General Waste Services** 31st December 2025.
- **Recycling Services** 31st December 2025.
- **Food Waste Services** 31st December 2025.
- **Confidential Services** 31st March 2025.
- **High Temperature Incineration (clinical) Services** 31st January 2025.
- **Alternative Treatment (clinical) Services** 31st January 2025.
- **Offensive (clinical) Services** 31st December 2025.

5. **Waste Company who holds the current contract**

- **General Waste Services** Veolia
- **Recycling Services** Veolia
- **Food Waste Services** Recorra
- **Confidential Services** Recorra
- **High Temperature Incineration (clinical) Services** Stericycle
- **Alternative Treatment (clinical) Services** Stericycle
- **Offensive (clinical) Services** Veolia

6. Name and Contact Details for the Waste Manager associated to the Trust

John Kirk.
Facilities Manager, Environment and Performance.

We are unable to provide the contact details of staff as we consider this information to be exempt from release in accordance with section 44 of the Freedom of Information Act (Prohibition on disclosure) and would refer to the Privacy and Electronic Communications EC Directive Regulations 2003 which provide specific rules on electronic communication services, including marketing (by phone, fax, email or text) and keeping communications services secure. We will not provide any information that could result in the transmission of unsolicited communications which may place an unacceptable risk to our email network and could also have a detrimental impact on patient care and treatment.

The contact number for the Trust are accessible on the Trust website <http://www.esht.nhs.uk>.

This is an absolute exemption and there is, therefore, no requirement to consider the public interest.

7. Name and Contact Details for the Sustainability Lead associated to the Trust

Chris Hodgson
Director of Estates and Facilities.

Section 44 applied as above.

8. Name and Contact Details for the Procurement Lead associated to the Trust

Angela Alletson
Head of Procurement.

Section 44 applied as above.

9. Name and Contact Details for the Infection Prevention Control Lead associated to the Trust

Lisa Redmond
Head of Infection Prevention and Control.

Section 44 applied as above.

10. Do the Trust have a reusable sharps solution in place to reduce the amount of single use plastic that is incinerated in traditional practices?

Yes.

11. Are there any onsite treatment facilities located on Trust premises which would mitigate the need for ensuing carbon footprint through the road miles that it takes to take the waste away?

No.

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 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 sincerely

Freedom of Information Department
esh-tr.foi@nhs.net