

FOI REF: 24/254

22nd April 2024

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. (a) how many times and

(b) for how many days in a year,

have each of your maternity wards been closed to new admissions as a result of staffing or any other challenges, in each of the past 5 years.

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust (ESHT) closed 1 time in the last 5 years for a duration of 4 hours.

2. How many times have there been

(a) delays to the induction of labour;

2022/2023	212 delayed induction of labour.
2023/2024	164 delayed induction of labour.

We do not hold this information pre 2022.

(b) delays to caesarean sections and

2022/2023	22 delayed caesarean sections.
2023/2024	18 delayed caesarean sections.

We do not hold this information pre 2022.

(c) cancelled caesarean sections, as a result of a lack of staff and/or beds in your maternity unit in each of the last 5 years.

ESHT do not cancel caesarean sections, they would only be delayed, unless a patient wishes to be transferred to another Trust.

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), 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