

FOI REF: 24/683

15th October 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:

For the last 3 financial years (2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2023-2024)

Total equipment waste:

- 1. The volume (in units) and value (in £) of medical equipment that was discarded, either by being placed in skips, incinerated or otherwise disposed of, rather than reused or recycled.**

FOIA Section 1 (1) (a)

This information is not held by East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust. Medical equipment is difficult to quantify as to what volume and costs are as these items would be part of mixed loads.

Please provide a breakdown by equipment type (e.g., walking frames, crutches, beds, etc.).

FOIA Section 1 (1) (a)

This information is not held by East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust as these items would be part of mixed loads.

Costs associated with waste:

- 2. What is the annual cost of purchasing new patient medical equipment (crutches, walking frames etc)**

2021-2022 new medical equipment purchased =£ 8,134,282

2022-2023 new medical equipment purchased =£ 6,194,958

2023-2024 new medical equipment purchased = £ 6,851,478

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Recycling and reuse mechanisms:

3. Details of any mechanisms, schemes, or policies your Trust has in place for reusing, recycling, or donating medical equipment, including:

Reuse Scheme for furniture, equipment and medical equipment. Request are placed on the online form within the logistics pages.

a. How returned equipment is processed (e.g., decontamination and refurbishment).

Equipment will be cleaned with Hydrogen Peroxide Vapor (HPV), or deep cleaned with appropriate materials. Repaired, refurbished were required and made ready for reuse.

b. The percentage of equipment successfully reused or recycled.

40%

c. Any partnerships with charities or external organisations to recycle or donate equipment.

None for charity however do work with other local healthcare organisations

d. Who is the named person in your NHS Trust responsible for holding this work

There are number of stakeholders. Chris Hodgeson is ultimately responsible and is the manager and director of our Estates and Facilities department.

Financial savings or revenue:

4. The financial savings your Trust has made through recycling or reusing medical equipment (if applicable).

No data for 2021-2022, 2022-2023 as system for reuse was not in place.

2023-2024 196 Items reused and savings estimated £37,376

2024-2025 227 Items reused and savings estimated £44,809.50

5. Any revenue generated from recycling or selling used equipment, including the breakdown by equipment type.

2021-2022

54.5 tonne of Metal including medical equipment, beds, walking frames and other items - income to the Trust £4,870.8

2022-2023

98.7 tonne of Metal including medical equipment, beds, walking frames and other items - income to the Trust £17,794.27

2023-2024

87 tonne of Metal including medical equipment, beds, walking frames and other items - income to the Trust £19,423.94

Contractor involvement:

- 6. The total amount of money paid to contractors or suppliers for the provision of medical equipment that could potentially be reused or recycled.**

FOIA Section 1 (1) (a)

This information is not held by East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust as the items are not broken down to individual collections or costs per item.

Plans for future action:

- 7. Any current or future initiatives aimed at reducing the waste of medical equipment and improving recycling or reuse efforts.**

Yes.

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