

FOI REF: 24/741

29th November 2024

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:

Please would you provide the following information in regards to hospital equipment (eg: crutches, walking aids and wheelchairs etc) distributed to patients for their use at home?

- 1) **What is your policy on reusing hospital equipment distributed to patients for their use at home?**

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust does not hold this information, as this service is provided by an external provider via East Sussex County Council. Would you therefore please contact them direct for a response to your request, contact details as follows:

<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/your-council/about/key-documents/foi/request>

- 2) **Can you please tell me the cost of hospital equipment distributed to patients for their use at home?, broken down by equipment type, for each of the last five financial years:**

- a) 2023-24
- b) 2022-23
- c) 2021-22
- d) 2020-21
- e) 2019-20

Not applicable.

3) Can you please tell me the total number of each equipment type distributed to patients, in each of the last five financial years?

- a) 2023-24
- b) 2022-23
- c) 2021-22
- d) 2020-21
- e) 2019-20

Not applicable.

4) What was the total number of the items distributed that were returned to the hospital by patients in each of the last five years?

- a) 2023-24
- b) 2022-23
- c) 2021-22
- d) 2020-21
- e) 2019-20

Not applicable.

5) Can you please tell me the value of the equipment patients returned, broken down by item type in each of the last five financial years?

- a) 2023-24
- b) 2022-23
- c) 2021-22
- d) 2020-21
- e) 2019-20

Not applicable.

6) Of the items of equipment returned in each of the last five financial years, can you please tell me the percentage of each type that is disposed of and the percentage that is recycled or reused?

- a) 2023-24
- b) 2022-23
- c) 2021-22
- d) 2020-21
- e) 2019-20

Not applicable.

7) Does your trust have a central collection point for the return of equipment distributed to patients for home use?

Not applicable.

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