

FOI REF: 25/046

12th February 2025

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:

Virtual wards

1. **The total number of virtual ward beds you had open as of 15 January 2025**

58.

2. **The total number of VW beds, broken down by the different specialties served by those virtual wards**

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust does not have ringfenced 'beds' by specialty.

3. **The beds occupancy rate as of 15 January 2025, broken down by specialty**

41/58 = 70.7% occupancy as at 8 am on 15th January 2025. Whilst we don't have ring fenced beds per specialty, we do have the ward spilt for those patients, which is as follows:

Ward	Patients
Heart Failure	6
RESPs	11
General	21
Frailty	3

Patient initiated follow-up

4. A list of the specialities for which you offer patient-initiated follow-up

Breast Surgery
Cardiology
Diabetic Medicine
Ear, Nose and Throat
Endocrinology
Gastroenterology
General Surgery
Gynaecology
Haematology
Maxillo-Facial Surgery
Neurology
Paediatric Diabetes
Paediatric Epilepsy
Paediatric Surgery
Paediatrics
Plastic Surgery
Rheumatology
Thoracic Medicine
Urology
Vascular Surgery

5. The proportion of outpatient attendances discharged to PIFU pathways, as of 15 January 2025 (or the most recent data point – please specify the date if different from 15/1/25).

As at 15th January 2025: 2.3% of outpatient discharges were to a PIFU Pathway as per the table below, (please note: this is purely the activity for the 15th January 2025):

System Outcome Description	Outpatient Discharges
Attended on Time - Discharged From Clinic	41
M) Attended - Discharge - No Further Treatment Req	136
M) Attended - Discharge - Patient Declined Treatment	2
M) Attended - Discharge - Treatment Complete	158
M) Attended - T&O Only Discharge to Pifu	11
Z) Cbh - No Further Treatment Required - Discharged	14
Z) Uta - No Further Treatment Required Discharge	28
Zt M) Telephone Discharge - No Further Treatment Required	41
Zt M) Telephone Discharge - Treatment Complete	40
Zt) Telephone Contact Patient Discharged	14
Zv M) Video Discharge - No Further Treatment Required	1
Total	486
PIFU %	2.3%

6. The names of each technology supplier and the product used by the trust to run its PIFU pathways

Clarification was sought with regard to your definition of what is meant by “Technology supplier” and confirmation was received as follows:

I was thinking of the company/companies that supply and/or run the technology used for PIFU. This might be your EPR supplier, a PEP supplier such as DrDoctor that has PIFU functionality, or another party such as e.g. Microsoft that produces a PIFU-enabling product.

We record Patients on a PIFU on our PAS system.

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