



FOI REF: 25/273

8th May 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:

Would it be possible to provide me with a copy of the last set of minutes published for each of the following Trust Committees, appropriately redacted where necessary:

Audit Committee

Finance and Productivity Committee

People and Organisational Development Committee

Quality and Safety Committee

[Section 17 Notice of Refusal](#)

The information you have requested is exempt under Sections 41 and 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

[Section 41](#)

This is because the information would originally have been provided in confidence. Information is exempt information if –

- (a) it was obtained by the public authority from any other person (including another public authority), and,
- (b) the disclosure of the information to the public (otherwise than under this Act) by the public authority holding it would constitute a breach of confidence actionable by that or any other person.

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Section 43(2)

Whilst the Trust holds the information requested, it is applying a Section 43(2) exemption in relation to this 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 this information could cause harm to the Trust as the conversations that take place at Board Committee meetings include discussions of a confidential nature, including early discussions about business and financial decisions, key strategic conversations and detailed conversations about risks and incidents that would not be appropriate for public disclosure.

In this instance, we consider that the public interest in withholding the information is greater than the public interest in disclosing the information.

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