

FOI REF: 25/353

28th May 2025

Eastbourne District General Hospital

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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) **Please can you send me the following information for each of the following calendar years: 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024:**

Section 17 Notice of Refusal – Sections 38(1) and 40(2) applied.

Section 38(1)

The information you have requested is exempt under section 38(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to:

- (a) endanger the physical or mental health of any individual, or
- (b) endanger the safety of any individual.

We have concluded that disclosure could have a detrimental effect on an individual's staff mental health and wellbeing.

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

Section 40(2)

I can confirm that we hold this information, but it is exempt under section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Personal Information of third parties. This is because this information may allow the identification of individual staff members due to the small number and disclosure would breach the principles of the Data Protection Act.

This is an absolute exemption and there is, therefore, no requirement to consider the public interest.

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- a) **How many doctors have been suspended by the trust following allegations of malpractice?**
- b) **How many doctors had their contracts terminated by the trust following allegations of malpractice?**
- c) **How many doctors were not suspended from working at the trust whilst being investigated by the trust following allegations of malpractice?**
- d) **How many doctors have been suspended by the trust following allegations of them committing a sexual offence or inappropriate sexual behaviour e.g rape, sexual harassment, sexual assault etc?**
- e) **How many doctors have had their contracts terminated by the trust following allegations of them committing any sexual offence or inappropriate sexual behaviour e.g rape, sexual harassment, sexual assault etc?**
- f) **How many doctors were not suspended from working at the trust whilst being investigated by the trust following allegations of them committing any sexual offence or inappropriate sexual behaviour e.g rape, sexual harassment, sexual assault etc?**
- g) **How many doctors have been suspended by the trust following allegations of them committing an assault(s) (ABH/common/GBH etc)?**
- h) **How many doctors have had their contracts terminated by the trust following allegations of them committing an assault(s) (ABH/common/GBH etc)?**
- i) **How many doctors were not suspended from working at the trust whilst being investigated by the trust following allegations of them committing an assault(s) (ABH/common/GBH etc)?**

[Sections 38\(1\) and 40\(2\) applied, please refer to page 1.](#)

- 2) **Please can you send me the following information for each of the following calendar years: 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024:**

How many doctors have been suspended by the trust after the trust discovered that said doctor had lied/given false information on the application form to get the position that they hold at the trust?

[None.](#)

- 3) **Please can you send me the following information for each of the following calendar years: 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024:**

How many doctors have had their contracts terminated by the trust after the trust discovered that said doctor had lied/given false information on the application form to get the position that they hold at the trust?

None.

- 4) a) **How many doctors - who are currently employed by the trust - are under investigation by the trust following allegations of them committing an assault(s) (ABH/common/GBH etc)?**

b) **And how many of them are currently suspended?**

Sections 38(1) and 40(2) applied, please refer to page 1.

- 5) a) **How many doctors - who are currently employed by the trust - are under investigation by the trust following allegations of malpractice?**

b) **And how many of them are currently suspended?**

Sections 38(1) and 40(2) applied, please refer to page 1.

- 6) a) **How many doctors - who are currently employed by the trust - are under investigation by the trust following allegations of them committing any sexual offence or inappropriate sexual behaviour e.g rape, sexual harassment, sexual assault etc?**

b) **And how many of them are currently suspended?**

Sections 38(1) and 40(2) applied, please refer to page 1.

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