

FOI REF: 25/630

12th September 2025**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:

INCIDENT/ACCIDENT CAR PARK CONQUEST HOSPITAL 06/05/2025 (Collision with a protrusion from the underside of the breast screening unit located adjacent to a car park in the ground of Conquest hospital approximately 10:45am on Monday 6th May 2025).

I would be grateful if you would kindly assist me with the following additional matters in connection with this incident.

- 1) **As I am aware from my conversations with car park personnel and other hospital employees that there have been other accidents/incidents involving the Breast Screening Unit at the location, please provide me with details of these other accidents/incidents, namely collisions with protrusions at the underside/ towing mechanism of the mobile breast screening unit?**

The Trust is aware of two incidents in 2023. There have been no further incidents since then. The two parties referred to above were directed to pursue the matter with their insurance companies. The Trust would not be provided with an update to this.

- 2) **What were the outcomes of these previous accidents/incidents? Were insurance claims pursued and, if so, what were the outcomes of these claims/actions?**

The two parties above were directed to pursue the matter with their insurance companies. The Trust would not be provided with an update to this.

- 3) **What action was taken by ESHT to mitigate further such incidents?**
I am aware (I have photos of and the evidence of car park staff) that a barrier was positioned in a parking bay adjacent to the hazard but at the time of my accident the barrier had fallen over and was laying on the ground and not providing protection, the barrier was not weighted down with sand bags!

Barriers and cones have been in place since the installation of the mobile scanner.

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4) Details of personnel on duty in the car parks on the day in question.

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 disclosure of this information 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.

5) a) What instructions were issued to staff to visit the site to check that the barrier remained secured and positioned correctly?

Staff are asked to patrol daily and, where operational demands allow, will patrol as many times as is practicable. If they notice there are issues around the site staff will take the appropriate actions to correct or escalate as needed.

b) I have visited the site of the car park in question on a number of occasions and noted that a barrier, being used in an attempt to prevent use of the parking bay, laying on the ground! I have however noticed sand-bags on the ground close to the barrier but not fixing the barrier in an upright position.

The parking officers will patrol as often as is practicable where operational demands allow. If the sandbags are moved, if barriers fall or are moved by other visitors, then this will only be noticed at the next patrol, unless parking staff are notified. If notified, the parking officers will rectify the issue at the earliest opportunity.

6) Please also advise me if CCTV cameras cover the area in question and if so are there recordings of my incident and to whom do I apply to obtain either, sight of the incident or copies of the recording(s)?

There is no CCTV coverage in this area.

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