

FOI REF: 25/707

26th November 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:

Please provide the following information, broken down by month, between January 2020 and September 2025 inclusive. If this is not possible, please instead provide it broken down by calendar year, 2020 to 2025 inclusive.

- 1. The number of patients who have died whilst on your waiting list to receive consultant-led elective (planned) hospital treatment — and who have therefore been removed from the list due to their death (If your trust calls this particular waiting list something else, please use common sense and provide the waiting list data most relevant to my questions)**

Clarification was sought with regard to whether you were asking for information about

- patients who had died from a condition related to that which they had been on the waiting list for; or**
- patients who had died due to an unrelated reason, such as a patient dying of a heart attack whilst waiting for a knee transplant**

You confirmed that that you were requesting the following:

I would like the data on all deaths, even those that are unrelated to the service they were on the waiting list for.

We are applying a section 22 exemption to this part of your request, as the data is intended for publication at a future date.

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.

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

- 1a. If possible, please tell me how many of these people who died had been waiting for longer than 18 weeks after being referred for consultant-led elective hospital treatment?

[Section 22 applied, please refer to question 1, page 1.](#)

2. If possible, please provide a separate breakdown of the ethnicity of all those who died whilst on your waiting list to receive consultant-led elective (planned) hospital treatment over each of these time periods.

[Section 22 applied, please refer to question 1, page 1.](#)

3. If possible, for the people who died (those referred to in questions 1 and 1a) please tell me the postcode district (e.g, "SE6") of their home addresses. (For the avoidance of doubt, I just want to know the first part of the postcode that they lived in).

[Section 22 applied, please refer to question 1, page 1.](#)

Further to our clarification request you requested the following further information:

I'd now like to request the following additional information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please:

1. Can you provide a breakdown by ethnicity of all those who died after waiting for longer than 18 weeks to receive consultant-led elective hospital treatment in each of the time periods referred to in my original request, please?

(If possible, I would like to know the total number of people who died from each ethnic group over this whole time period, as well as in each individual year, please).

[Section 22 applied, please refer to question 1, page 1.](#)

- 1a. Can you also provide an ethnicity breakdown of the people who died after waiting for longer than 52 weeks to receive consultant-led elective hospital treatment in each of these time periods, please?

(If possible, I would like to know the total number of people who died from each ethnic group over this whole time period, as well as in each individual year, please).

[Section 22 applied, please refer to question 1, page 1.](#)

- 1b. For all those who died after waiting for longer than 18 weeks to receive consultant-led elective hospital treatment in each of these time periods, please tell me what treatment functions they were on the waiting list for when they died. For example, I'd like to know how many of the people who died were on the waiting lists for respiratory, cardiology, gynecology treatments, etc. (If possible, please break this down by ethnicity too).**

Section 22 applied, please refer to question 1, 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