

FOI REF: 25/741

5th 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:

1. Please tell me how many patients were treated in corridor areas or other areas in emergency departments in each of the last two financial years:

a) 2024/25

From mid-October to 31st March 2025 there were 3,537 patients treated in corridor areas in the emergency departments, please see note below.

Please note, the Emergency Department at Conquest Hospital started to record patients treated in non-clinical area on the clinical System from 15th October 2024 and Eastbourne District General Hospital Emergency Department from 28th October 24.

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust did not start centrally recording if a patient was being treated in a corridor area until mid-October 2024. To establish if the Trust are able to provide this information would require a manual review of all patients notes who attended the Emergency Departments for the time period requested, to establish if we recorded where the patients were treated, which we estimate would take in excess of 18 hours. We are therefore applying Section 12(1) to this part of your request.

Section 12(1) of the Act allows a public authority to refuse to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of compliance would exceed the 'appropriate limit', as defined by the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 (the Regulations). These state that this cost limit is £450 for public authorities which are not part of central government or the armed forces. The costs are calculated at £25 per hour per person regardless of the rate of pay, which means that the limit will be exceeded if the work involved would exceed 18 hours. The Trust estimates that the cost of complying with this request would significantly exceed the above limit.

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b) 2023/24

Section 12(1) applied, please refer to question 1a.

2. **Please specify the types of non-clinical areas patients are treated (corridors, converted cupboards, others)**

The type of non-clinical areas patients have been treated are the Trust's corridors.

3. **Please tell me whether the trust employs dedicated doctors, nurses or other staff to work specifically in corridor areas. If yes, please provide details of the job title.**

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust does not employ dedicated doctors or nurses to work specifically in corridor areas.

Corridor care is covered by the employment of temporary staffing or redeployment from other clinical areas.

4. **Please tell me if the trust has any policies to reduce corridor care. If so, provide details or attach the relevant document.**

There are no policies specifically aimed at reducing corridor care. Corridor care is reduced through discharges from in patient areas and patient flow through the organisation.

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