



East Sussex Healthcare

NHS Trust

FOI REF: 25/775

Eastbourne District General Hospital

Kings Drive
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 2UD

14th November 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:

The design and factors effecting prioritization of ENT referral and numbers being prioritised on monthly basis within the health trust and where that sits in comparison to other trusts. Anonymise where you like but I want the numbers.

Referrals are sent via referral system centrally and are triaged by University Hospital Sussex NHS Foundation Trust GPs. Our wait times at the start of the year for first outpatient appointment were around 65-68 weeks, dependant on speciality. We have worked to reduce these to around 40 weeks as of this month.

Please see the attached document for the number of ENT referrals, routine and urgent, for the period 1st April 2024 to 30th September 2025.

Please note that we do not hold information from other Trusts to be able to compare our response.

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.

Cont.../

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

ENT - ERS Referrals - April 2024 to September 2025

Service Name	Apr-24		Total in Month	May-24		Total in Month	Jun-24		Total in Month	Jul-24		Total in Month	Aug-24		Total in Month
	Routine	Urgent		Routine	Urgent		Routine	Urgent		Routine	Urgent		Routine	Urgent	
	988	70		1251	85		782	79		488	69		308	81	
Referral Assessment Service - ENT Sussex (ESHT) - East Sussex Healthcare Trust - RXC			1058			1336			861			557			389

Service Name	Sep-24		Total in Month	Oct-24		Total in Month	Nov-24		Total in Month	Dec-24		Total in Month	Jan-25		Total in Month
	Routine	Urgent		Routine	Urgent		Routine	Urgent		Routine	Urgent		Routine	Urgent	
	226	76		945	74		501	81		354	70		544	68	
Referral Assessment Service - ENT Sussex (ESHT) - East Sussex Healthcare Trust - RXC			302			1019			582			424			612

Service Name	Feb-25		Total in Month	Mar-25		Total in Month	Total 24/25		Total 24/25
	Routine	Urgent		Routine	Urgent		Routine	Urgent	
	462	85		509	77		5119	760	
Referral Assessment Service - ENT Sussex (ESHT) - East Sussex Healthcare Trust - RXC			547			586			5879

Service Name	Apr-25		Total in Month	May-25		Total in Month	Jun-25		Total in Month	Jul-25		Total in Month	Aug-25		Total in Month
	Routine	Urgent		Routine	Urgent		Routine	Urgent		Routine	Urgent		Routine	Urgent	
	575	83		458	72		543	88		528	114		452	58	
Referral Assessment Service - ENT Sussex (ESHT) - East Sussex Healthcare Trust - RXC			658			530			631			642			510

Service Name	Sep-25		Total in Month	Total 25/26		Total 25/26 YTD
	Routine	Urgent		Routine	Urgent	
	527	106		3083	521	
Referral Assessment Service - ENT Sussex (ESHT) - East Sussex Healthcare Trust - RXC			633			3604