

FOI REF: 25/791

13<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Eastbourne District General Hospital

Kings Drive  
Eastbourne  
East Sussex  
BN21 2UD

Tel: 0300 131 4500  
Website: [www.esht.nhs.uk](http://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. Are your local GPs able to request neurology MRI scans at your Trust?**

Yes.

**2. Do admitted neurology patients have access to MRI 7 days a week?**

No.

**3. What % of neurology patients have their MRI test within 14 days from request from the most recent data available?**

20.72%

**4. What % of neurology patients receive their MRI results within 14 days of the test from the most recent data available?**

81.1% - this is calculated from the date of scan to the date the report is available on the Trust system.

**5. What % of neurology patients received a diagnosis within 6 weeks from the time the diagnostic test was sent from the most recent data available?**

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust does not centrally record the percentage of neurology patients that received a diagnosis within 6 months from the time of the diagnostic tests. To enable the Trust to provide this information would require the Trust to monitor and review how many patients as a %, receive diagnosis following diagnostic / monitoring, the time it takes to report diagnostics, over a 3-month period, 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.

**6. How many MRI scanners are there in your trust? For any of these scanners, please state the year of installation and the TESLA rating (1.5 TESLA, 3 TESLA, 7 TESLA).**

Please see the table below for the number of MRI scanners within the Trust, including the year of installation and Tesla rating:

Scanner	Year of installation	Tesla rating
1	2016	1.5
2	2019	1.5
3	2019	1.5

**7. How many neuro-radiologists do you have in your trust?**

**Clarification was sought with regard to your definition of neuro-radiologist and confirmation was received as follows:**

**Include all neuroradiologists, including interventional neuroradiologists.**

We do not have any neuroradiologist within the Trust.

**8. Is there access to MRI and specialist neuroradiological opinion 24 hours a day?**

**No.**

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](mailto: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](mailto:esh-tr.foi@nhs.net)