



## East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust

FOI REF: 25/908

23<sup>rd</sup> January 2026

Eastbourne District General Hospital

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East Sussex  
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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. Service Provision:

a. Does your Trust currently provide any clinical or non-clinical services that explicitly address any of the following (e.g., within sexual health, mental health, addiction, or emergency care settings)

**Chemsex**

**Sexualised drug use**

**Gamma-hydroxybutyrate (GHB) / gamma-butyrolactone (GBL) use**

**Crystal methamphetamine use**

**Mephedrone use**

**LGBTQ+ health issues**

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust no longer provides a Sexual Health Service. This service is provided by Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust. Their Freedom of Information email address is:-

[kcht.foi@nhs.net](mailto:kcht.foi@nhs.net)

Please note that East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust does not provide a Mental Health Service. This service is provided by Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust who are the Mental Health Trust for this area. Their Freedom of Information email address is:-

[spft.foi@nhs.net](mailto:spft.foi@nhs.net)

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust's Emergency Department clinical systems do not record data related to chemsex or sexualised drug use. Therefore, the Trust does not hold the information that has been requested.

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b. If Yes, please describe the nature of each of these services (e.g. dedicated chemsex clinic, integrated support within substance use or sexual health services or other). If you have more than one service for one item, please specify the nature of each service.

Not applicable.

c. If Yes, please provide any documents, guidelines or websites/URLs for each of these services.

Not applicable.

**2. Referrals and Care Pathways:**

a. Does your Trust have an established referral pathway or protocol for patients identified as engaging in any of the following:

Chemsex

Sexualised drug use

Gamma-hydroxybutyrate (GHB) / gamma-butyrolactone (GBL) use

Crystal methamphetamine use

Mephedrone use

Not applicable.

b. If Yes, please say which departments are involved in these pathways (e.g. sexual health, mental health, A&E, drug and alcohol teams etc). If you have more than one pathway for one item, please specify the departments for each.

Not applicable.

c. If Yes, please provide any documents, guidelines or protocols that refer to, or describe, such pathways.

Not applicable.

d. Are there any formal partnerships with external or community-based organisations that provides care or services specifically for LGBTQ+ or individuals that participate in chemsex, sexualised drug use or use of GHB/GBL, meth or mephedrone (e.g. Controlling Chemsex, Terrence Higgins Trust, London Friend)? Please state Yes or No.

Not applicable.

e. If yes to question 2d, please 1) state all external or community-based organisations that your trust has a formal partnership with and please 2) provide any documents, guidelines or protocols that refer to, or describe, these partnerships.

Not applicable.

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**3. Workforce and Training:**

a. **Have any staff received training specifically relating to chemsex, sexualised drug use or LGBTQ+ needs in the last 3 years? Please state Yes or No.**

Not applicable.

b. **If yes to question 3a, please state:**

- **The type of staff trained (e.g. clinicians, counsellors, health advisers)**
- **For what services the training was provided for**
- **The name(s) of the training provider(s) and any relevant documents or website/URL**
- **The approximate number of staff trained**

Not applicable.

**4. Monitoring and Evaluation:**

a. **Does your Trust collect data on the number of service users presenting with issues related to chemsex or sexualised drug use? Please state Yes or No.**

Not applicable.

b. **If yes to question 4a, please provide available data (by year, from 2020 to present) on:**

- **Number of individuals assessed or treated**
- **Type of service accessed (e.g., sexual health, A&E, mental health)**
- **Any outcome measures collected (if available)**

Not applicable.

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.

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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)