

FOI REF: 25/914

Eastbourne District General Hospital

Kings Drive  
Eastbourne  
East Sussex  
BN21 2UD

22<sup>nd</sup> January 2026

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. How many inpatients with Dementia at your Trust in 2024 and 2025 were accompanied by a healthcare worker or another member of staff when they were sent for scans or tests, where a family member, guardian or other non-member of staff were not present. For context, this doesn't include porters, it refers to staff members who were there throughout the tests and scans, where a family member, guardian or other non-member of staff was not present. Can you please provide 2024 and 2025 as separate figures.**
- 2. How many inpatients with Dementia at your Trust in 2024 and 2025 were not accompanied by anyone? For context, this means no family member or guardian were present, nor a healthcare worker or other NHS staff member. Again, porters don't apply here. Can you please provide 2024 and 2025 as separate figures.**

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust does not centrally record the information requested above. The Trust holds data on patients discharged during 2024 and 2025 with a diagnosis of dementia/disorientation/cognitive impairment; however, the data reflects in excess of 30,000 episodes of inpatient care. To establish if the Trust holds the specific data required to answer this request the Trust would need to determine which, of over 30,000 episodes of inpatient care, required the patient to have a scan or test, note the date of the scan or test, and then manually review each patient's medical record, to establish if a record had been made as to whether the patient was accompanied by a healthcare worker or another member of staff when they were sent for a scan or test. The same principle would need to be applied to determine how many patients were not accompanied by anyone sent for a scan or test, which we estimate would take in excess of 5,000 hours. We are therefore applying Section 12(1) to 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.

**If it is not possible to provide some of the data requested, I would be grateful if you could provide whichever elements of this FOI request are eligible for release.**

None, please refer to 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](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)