

6th May 2026

Eastbourne District General Hospital
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Eastbourne
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Tel: 0300 131 4500
Website: www.esht.nhs.uk

Further to your recent request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000, I now set out our answers to your specific questions, and any clarifications sought and provided, as follows:

I would like to ask for the following information for each maternity unit in your trust:

1) What is the name of your maternity unit?

[Conquest Maternity Unit and Eastbourne Midwifery Led Unit.](#)

2) How many 3rd year midwifery students do you have doing their clinical placement in your maternity unit, this academic year 2025-6?

[Originally seven, but now six as one student qualified in January 2026 as part of a January cohort.](#)

3) How many vacancies do you expect to have for newly qualified midwives in September 2026?

[5](#)

4) How many vacancies do you expect to have in September - December 2026 for newly qualified midwives?

[0 - this is because we aim to have recruited to the five vacancies referenced in our response to Question 3 during this period.](#)

5) What communications have you sent to your 3rd year midwifery students to inform them about expected job opportunities when they qualify?

[We send emails to all 3rd Year students to enquire as to who plans to apply to East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust \(ESHT\) upon qualifying and to offer interview preparation.](#)

6) If and when there are vacancies for newly qualified midwives, are midwives who trained at your trust/unit automatically offered a job without an interview / guaranteed an interview / not guaranteed a job nor an interview?

[All 3rd Year students who wish to work at ESHT are encouraged to apply for any vacancies we publish using our formal application process. Once the vacancy has](#)

closed, all applications are reviewed and shortlisted applicants are then invited for interview.

7) How many Band 5 newly qualified midwives have been recruited in your unit since September 2025?

11 newly qualified midwives have been recruited since September 2025.

8) How many of those are on permanent contracts?

All have been employed on 12-month fixed term contracts.

9) How many of those are on short-term contracts?

Please see above.

10) How many of those are full-time?

11

11) How many of those are part-time?

0

I trust this information is helpful in its detail or explanation however, if you are dissatisfied with the response, then you have the right to request an internal review. If you wish to seek an internal review, please write to the Freedom of Information Team at esh-tr.foi@nhs.net quoting the above FOI reference number, within 40 working days. Please note the Trust is not obliged to accept a request for an internal review after this time period.

Yours faithfully

Freedom of Information (FOI) Team
East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust
0300 131 4716
Core Hours of Business: Monday to Friday 9.00am to 4.00pm