

FOI REF: 26/276

13th May 2026

Eastbourne District General Hospital

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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:

Please could you provide the following information:

1) Who is the current supplier of your macerators and/or bedpan washers?

Vernacare.

2) How many sluice machines do you have in total across the trust/hospital?

39 at Eastbourne District General Hospital.

30 at the Conquest Hospital (St. Leonards-on-Sea).

3) Who is responsible for servicing and maintaining these machines (e.g. the original equipment manufacturer, a third-party service provider, or in-house teams)?

In-house teams.

4) When does the current contract for the supply and/or servicing of this equipment expire?

Not applicable.

5) Which department or role within the Trust is responsible for managing these contracts?

The Trust does not currently have a contract for the supply and/or servicing of macerators and/or bedpan washers. The person responsible for the purchase, maintenance and repair of these machines is the Head of Engineering (Estates and Facilities Management).

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