

FOI REF: 26/445

14th July 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:

Has ESHT been notified of a service transfer or proposed TUPE transfer for the special schools nursing team covering Summerdown/Southdown Centre? What were the reasons for ESHT removing the team, and who is the incoming provider, and what are the proposed transfer dates?

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust (ESHT) initiated the discussions as part of notice on the contract, and is engaged in negotiations to transfer the Special Schools Nursing Team (SSNT) from ESHT to another provider. ESHT is also working closely with the Integrated Care Board (ICB) on this.

The new provider will support closer alignment of services across the local health system, and a more integrated approach to meeting the needs of the community whilst preserving the quality and continuity of the current service. It is intended that the SSNT will transfer unchanged to the new provider ensuring consistency and continuity of support for children, their families and staff.

The staff affected by the proposed transfer are being regularly updated on the situation but until the transfer has been finalised, we cannot confirm who the incoming provider may be or the exact date of the transfer, although we hope that this would tie in with the start of the new 2026/27 school year.

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