

1st October 2026

Eastbourne District General Hospital

Kings Drive
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 2UD

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:

Please provide the following information for 2024/2025 and 2025/2026:

- 1) **The total number of midwifery vacancies which were publicly advertised by the Trust during this period (breakdown by AfC band).**

Please note that the information provided below is for 2025/2026. It is not possible to provide figures for 2024/2025, as the online recruitment management system used by East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust (ESHT) holds information for 12 months only.

Band 5	13.82
Band 6	31.65
Band 7	5.8
Band 8a	1.4
Band 8c	1
Band 9	1
Total	54.67

- 2) **The total number of applications received for these advertised roles (breakdown by AfC band).**

Please note that the information provided below is for 2025/2026. It is not possible to provide figures for 2024/2025, as the online recruitment management system used by ESHT holds information for 12 months only.

Band 5	40
Band 6	182
Band 7	5
Band 8a	1
Band 8c	4
Band 9	4
Total	236

- 3) **Have you reduced your number of specialist midwife posts and which posts have been affected in the last two years?**

The number of specialist midwife posts has not been reduced.

Birthrate plus:

- 4) **Does your budgeted establishment meet the recommendation for your local Birthrate plus assessment?**

Yes.

- 5) **If no, how many WTE posts are not funded?**

Not applicable.

- 6) **Are you fully recruited to Birthrate plus recommendation?**

Yes.

- 7) **If no, how many WTE vacancies do you have?**

Not applicable.

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