

27th 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:

I am requesting the following information relating to recorded rectal foreign body admissions in your hospitals.

For the purpose of this request, 'rectal foreign body' refers to items stuck, inserted or lodged in a person's rectum (I am not seeking information on vaginas) which required hospital treatment to remove.

- 1) Please provide the total number of people who attended your hospital(s) in need of assistance for a rectal foreign body in the rectum.**

Hospital Name	Conquest Hospital				
Year	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Number of rectal foreign bodies.	5	10	6	11	6

Hospital Name	Eastbourne District General Hospital				
Year	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Number of rectal foreign bodies.	5	7	9	10	6

- 2) Please provide an itemised list of the foreign bodies.**

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust (ESHT) does not centrally record the type of rectal foreign body patients needed assistance removing in our Emergency Departments. To enable ESHT to provide this information, it would require a manual review of all 75 records which we estimate would take 25 hours. We are therefore applying Section 12(1) to this part of 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.

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