

28th October 2026

Eastbourne District General Hospital

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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 writing to request information regarding patient safety incidents and formal complaints within your Trust

Please provide your response in Excel/Sheets format, if possible.

Please provide the following data for the last three financial years (2023/24, 2024/25, and 2025/26 to date), broken down by each individual financial year:

- 1) How many patient safety incidents were recorded by your Trust where the primary incident category or sub-category relates to a "delayed diagnosis", "missed diagnosis", or "misdiagnosis" of cancer, sepsis, or acute myocardial infarction (heart attack)?**

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust does not centrally record patient safety incidents broken down as requested. To enable the Trust to provide this information would require a manual review of 1,040 incidents identified and cross reference with the patient's health records, which we estimate would take 173 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.

2) **Of the incidents identified, how many were diagnosed with the following instead:**

- a. **Anxiety**
- b. **Stress**
- c. **Depression**
- d. **Panic attacks**
- e. **Menopause**

[We do not hold this information.](#)

3) **Of the incidents identified in Question 2, please provide a breakdown by the recorded 'Degree of Harm' or 'Level of Harm' (e.g no harm, low, moderate, severe, death)**

[Please refer to question 2 above.](#)

4) **How many claims were made against your Trust regarding the delayed diagnosis, missed diagnosis, or misdiagnosis of cancer, sepsis, or acute myocardial infarction (heart attack), and what was the total amount of compensation paid out per year?**

[The information requested above is collated by NHS Resolution and is available via their website which can be accessed using the link below:](#)

[Annual statistics - NHS Resolution](#)

[For further information, Freedom of Information requests to NHS Resolution can be made via the link below:](#)

<https://resolution.nhs.uk/freedom-of-information/>

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