FOI REF: 26/576

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust

6th November 2026

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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:

This request concerns patients referred, discharged or transferred by East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust to Hollanden Park Hospital ("HPH"), an independent specialist neurological rehabilitation hospital operated by Renovo Care.

Please provide information for the 36-month period ending 10 August 2026, broken down into these three separate 12-month periods:

- **11 August 2025 to 10 August 2026;**
- **11 August 2024 to 10 August 2025; and**
- **11 August 2023 to 10 August 2024.**

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust (ESHT) does not centrally record the information requested. ESHT digital patient health records do not have a dedicated "referred to", "transferred to" or "discharged to" field to facilitate an automatic download of information; to see if we hold this level of detail would require a manual review of the digital health records of all patients seen under our Neurology Department to see if they were referred to, transferred to or discharged to Hollanden Park Hospital (HPH). This manual review would also be required to consider if we hold the information required to answer all of the subsequent detailed questions. This request would be better directed to HPH or Renovo Care who can provide data on referrals, transfers and discharges to them by each organisation, together with the supplementary information being sought.

Given the volume of patients seen in the Neurology Departments over a three year period we estimate this would significantly exceed 18 hours. We are therefore applying Section 12(1) to 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.

1) **The number of patients referred, discharged or transferred by the Trust to HPH for inpatient neurological rehabilitation during each period.**

   Section 12(1) applied, please refer to page 1.

2) **The number of those patients in respect of whom the Trust subsequently received, generated or participated in correspondence or decision-making about:**

   a) **extending the patient's inpatient rehabilitation at HPH;**

   b) **obtaining further NHS funding for that placement;**

   c) **transferring the patient to HPH's Extended Rehabilitation Pathway; or**

   d) **discharging the patient because further funding was not approved.**

   Section 12(1) applied, please refer to page 1.

3) **Where the Trust holds the outcome, the number of extension requests:**

   a) **approved in full;**

   b) **approved for a shorter period;**

   c) **refused;**

   d) **withdrawn; or**

   e) **still undecided when the existing placement or funding period ended.**

   Section 12(1) applied, please refer to page 1.

4) **Where recorded, the duration of extensions requested and approved, grouped as:**

   a) **less than four weeks;**

   b) **four to six weeks;**

   c) **seven to twelve weeks; and**

   d) **more than twelve weeks.**

   Section 12(1) applied, please refer to page 1.

5) **Where already recorded in a reportable form, the broad clinical categories of the patients concerned, such as acquired brain injury, stroke, Guillain–Barré syndrome or another peripheral neurological condition, progressive neurological condition, spinal injury or neurobehavioural condition.**

Section 12(1) applied, please refer to page 1.

6) **Copies of any policies, protocols, pathway documents, service specifications or guidance held by the Trust concerning:**

a) **referral or transfer from an East Sussex hospital to independent specialist neurological rehabilitation;**

b) **liaison with HPH or an NHS commissioner about extending rehabilitation;**

c) **clinical information supplied in support of an extension request;**

d) **continuity of physiotherapy and occupational therapy where an inpatient placement ends;**

e) **assessment of deterioration or loss of rehabilitation opportunity following a reduction in therapy; and**

f) **the respective responsibilities of the Trust, HPH and the relevant ICB.**

We do not hold this information.

7) **Copies of any relevant information-sharing protocol, referral protocol, memorandum of understanding or standard contractual document between the Trust and HPH/Renovo Care, or between the Trust and the relevant ICB, concerning referrals to HPH or subsequent extension decisions.**

We do not hold this 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