



East London
NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance

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London
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Email elft.foi@nhs.net

Website: <https://www.elft.nhs.uk>

22 June 2021

Our reference: FOI DA3854

I am responding to your request for information received 18 June 2021. This has been treated as a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am now enclosing a response which is attached to the end of this letter. Please do not hesitate to contact me on the contact details above if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

Keshia Harvey
Information Governance Manager

If you are dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your FOIA request then you should contact us and we will arrange for an internal review of this decision.

If you remain dissatisfied with the decision following our response to your complaint, you may write to the Information Commissioner for a decision under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113
Web: www.ico.org.uk

Please note that the data supplied is not allowed to be re-used and/or published without the explicit consent of East London NHS Foundation Trust. Please contact the signatory to request permission if this is your intention

Chair: Mark Lam

Chief Executive: Paul Calaminus

We care

We respect

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Request:

To whom it may concern, I am writing to the East London NHS Foundation Trust FOI team to request information on Estates, Facilities & Ancillary Departments, specifically relating to the current management of hospital Porters. This information has not been located within the Disclosure Log or the 'Publication Scheme'.

Can the East London FT please provide 3 responses via email to the 3 questions below:

Question 1. Can the Trust please provide the total number porters that are currently employed/ contracted to perform porter services across the Trust's Hospitals? (This total number of porters can include individual part-time, bank and permanent porter staff that are directly employed by the Trust or porter support procured through a private service provider).

Question 2. Can the Trust please identify the name(s) of the current system(s) used by Trust staff to dispatch porters to jobs around the Trust's Hospitals on a daily basis? (e.g. Push To Talk Radio / Bleeper, Smart Phone / Tablet Application, Excel Spreadsheet, Paper-based System and/or Task Management Software on a Computer). By "Dispatch" we refer to the process of activating an individual Porter to take on a specific Job with the hospital.

Answer: The Trust has reviewed questions 1 and 2 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 1(1) of the FOI Act states:

Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled—

(a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and

(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to him.

East London NHS Foundation Trust does not directly employ porters and therefore does not hold the information requested.

Question 3. Lastly, can the Trust please provide clarification on the current contractual relationship of porter support, by this I mean - are porters directly employed by the Trust? or can the Trust provide both the name of the private provider contracted to deliver porter services and the time frame remaining on that contract until review?

Answer: The Trust has reviewed your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 21(1) of the FOI Act states:

(1) Information which is reasonably accessible to the applicant otherwise than under section 1 is exempt information.

The information requested is accessible here:

<https://www.elft.nhs.uk/uploads/files/1/FOI/ANON%20Response%20-%20FOI%20DA3668.pdf>