

Information Governance
The Green
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16th March 2022

Our reference: FOI DA4124

I am responding to your request for information received **2nd March 2022**. 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,



Lara Cousens
Information Governance Manager – Information Rights

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

We are inclusive

Request:

Question 1: Please provide details of clinical service incidents caused by estates and infrastructure failure at your hospital trust in 2020/21.

A “clinical service incident” is defined as follows: Number of incidents caused by estates and infrastructure failure which caused clinical services to be delayed, cancelled or otherwise interfered with owing to problems or failures related to the estates and infrastructure failure. Exclude failures relating to non-estates causes e.g. nursing availability but include where external incidents which estates and infrastructures should have mitigated e.g. utility power failures where the Trusts backup power system failed to offset. An incident is considered to be a delay of at least 30 minutes to clinical services affecting at least 5 patients or equivalent. Both inpatient and outpatient service incidents should be included.

Please note that the information provided will not always capture the length of delay or the total number of patients affected.

Such incidents will include, but are not limited to: • Power and/or heating failures including overheating • Fires and false alarms (where caused by equipment faults or malfunction, deliberate/malicious causes should be excluded) • Water and/or sewage supply • Food production and/or delivery • Pest control

For each incident, please provide a summary of the incident and the impact on services. Please provide details of the problem and in what way clinical services were affected, including the number of patients affected, the service and how long the service was delayed/if it was cancelled.

Answer: Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

Section 12(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

The Trust has reviewed your request for information and in order to collate this information, staff would have to collate information from a number of systems and departments within the Trust as well as contacting maintenance contractors to review their records. The information would then be required to be validated by the Estates team as well as a review from clinical leads before obtaining financial data for each incident. This has been estimated at a minimum of 30 hours.

Therefore, the Trust is unable to comply with this particular part of your request as the cost of compliance and extracting your exact requirements would exceed the appropriate cost limit of £450 which is specified in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This is based on a rate of £25 per hour, regardless of the rate of pay of any individual involved in the retrieval of requested information, and equates to 18 hours work.