

**Information Governance**

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

18 January 2023

**Our reference: FOI DA4509**

I am responding to your request for information received 21 December 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,



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](http://www.ico.org.uk)

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We promise to work together creatively to: learn  
'what matters' to everyone, achieve a better quality  
of life and continuously improve our services.  
**We care . We respect . We are inclusive**

**Chief Executive:** Paul Calaminus  
**Chair:** Eileen Taylor

**Request:** Your post COVID assessment service and related data collection

**Question 1:** When did your post COVID (long COVID) assessment service become operational?

**Answer:** The Trust has reviewed question 1 of 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/sites/default/files/2022-01/anon\\_response\\_-\\_foi\\_da3763.pdf](https://www.elft.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/2022-01/anon_response_-_foi_da3763.pdf)

**Question 2:** A copy of the operational policy for your post COVID (long COVID) assessment service

**Answer:** Please find attached, Appendix 1.

**Question 3:** The titles of the rows and columns of your central database/spreadsheet on the referrals received, patients seen and outcomes of assessments

**Answer:** The title rows and columns are:

- ORGANISATION\_IDENTIFIER\_(CODE\_OF\_PROVIDER)
- NHS\_NUMBER
- GENERAL\_MEDICAL\_PRACTICE\_CODE\_(PATIENT\_REGISTRATION)
- First\_Name
- Last\_Name
- PERSON\_BIRTH\_DATE
- PERSON\_STATED\_GENDER\_CODE
- POSTCODE\_OF\_USUAL\_ADDRESS
- CONTACT\_DATE\_AT\_POST\_COVID\_ASSESSMENT\_CLINIC
- REFERRAL\_REQUEST\_RECEIVED\_DATE

**Question 4:** What information do you hold on the occupations of people referred with post COVID (long COVID) syndrome?

**Answer:** The Trust has reviewed question 4 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 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 them.*

East London NHS Foundation Trust does not record the information requested and is therefore unable to provide a response.

**Question 5:** Do you record how many of the people referred are current or former NHS workers?



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Answer: Yes.

**Question 6: What data do you submit to NHS England and or other central bodies about the work of your service and the characteristics of the patients who you treat?**

Answer: The following is reported:

- Referral source
- Number of patients waiting for an assessment during the reporting period
- Number of patients who have had an assessment in the reporting period
- Time from referral to assessment
- Ethnicity of patient
- Number of those referred from a deprived background
- Gender
- Age
- Number of follow-up appointments in the reporting period

**Question 7: To where are patients referred if assessment concludes that they need rehabilitation for post COVID (long COVID) syndrome?**

Answer: Patients are referred to our service as we are an assessment and therapy service.



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