22 March 2023

Our reference: FOI DA4603

I am responding to your request for information received 17 February 2023. I am sorry for the delay in responding to your request. This has been treated as a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

When an organisation receives a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act, it is allowed under the Act to apply a blanket exemption to this where it has concluded that providing a response would take in excess of eighteen hours. When the cost of compliance and extracting information would exceed eighteen hours, a cost limit of £450 can be applied. This is explained in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and 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 eighteen hours work.

Having reviewed your request, the Trust has noted that it would not be able to provide all the information requested within the eighteen hours specified in the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

In order to assist you with your request, I have advised below the timing each question would take in order to assist you to refine your request. If you wish to refine your request to comply with the 18-hour time limit, please do get in touch.

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,

Nimita Parmar
Information Rights Coordinator

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:

The ELFT Promise

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

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

Chief Executive: Paul Calaminus
Chair: Eileen Taylor

Request:

Question 1: **How many wards have been closed by your Trust in total?**

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

When the Trust identifies that the request is likely to take over 18 hours, we are not obliged to provide information for any part of the request. We are required to provide advice on how you may refine your request to information that can be collated within the 18-hour timeframe. You may then choose what information you would like to receive and confirm the same to us, upon which we will process your request.

The Trust has reviewed your request for information and in order to collate this information, staff would have to review historical records and contracts, estimated to take three days to complete.

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.

Question 2: **Please list names of the wards closed, describe if they were adult/ old age/ forensic etc; their location and specify the number of bed lost with each of these wards?**

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

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Question 3: **How many new wards were opened by your Trust in total?**

Answer: This question would take one hour to collate.

Question 4: **Please list names of the wards opened, describe if they were adult/ old age/ forensic etc, their location and specify the number of bed lost with each of these wards?**

Answer: This question would take one hour to collate.