

Information Governance

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Chief Executive: Paul Calaminus

Chair: Eileen Taylor

23 June 2023

Our reference: FOI DA4627

I am responding to your request for information received 05 March 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.

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,

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:

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

Tel: 0303 123 1113 Web: <u>www.ico.org.uk</u>

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

Request: Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following information:

Question 1: How many staff did your organisation employ in the following years:

- From 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019
- From 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020
- From 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021
- From 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022
- From 1st April 2022 to date

Answer: Please see table below:

| 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | PRESENT |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Substantive | Substantive | Substantive | Substantive | Substantive |
| 5723 | 6061 | 6604 | 7765 | 8077 |
| Bank | Bank | Bank | Bank | Bank |
| 1246 | 1302 | 1797 | 1612 | 2204 |
| Honorary | Honorary | Honorary | Honorary | Honorary |
| 932 | 1206 | 1452 | 1766 | 2084 |

Question 2: How much did your organisation pay the external suppliers of legal services for the provision of legal services in each of the following years:

- From 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019
- From 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020
- From 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021
- From 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022
- From 1st April 2022 to date

Answer: Please see table below:

| External Legal Fees | | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|--|--|--|
| Financial Year | Total Cost Incl Vat | | | |
| 2018/19 | £467,445.46 | | | |
| 2019/20 | £616,122.05 | | | |
| 2020/21 | £631,234.44 | | | |
| 2021/22 | £672,521.85 | | | |
| 2022/23 | £679,525.78 | | | |
| Grand Total | £3,066,849.58 | | | |

Question 3: How much did your organisation spend on your in-house legal department in the following years:

- From 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019
- From 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020
- From 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021
- From 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022
- From 1st April 2022 to date

Answer: Please see table below:



Chief Executive: Paul Calaminus Chair: Eileen Taylor

| In-House Legal Dept Staffing Cost | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|--|--|
| Financial Year | Total Cost | | |
| 2018/19 | £225,704.77 | | |
| 2019/20 | £281,610.94 | | |
| 2020/21 | £318,806.31 | | |
| 2021/22 | £375,375.40 | | |
| 2022/23 | £465,933.72 | | |
| Grand Total | £1,667,431.14 | | |

Question 4: How many claims (clinical and non-clinical negligence) did your organisation receive in each of the following years:

- From 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019
- From 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020
- From 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021
- From 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022
- From 1st April 2022 to date

Answer: Please see table below:

| Period | No of Claims |
|----------------------------------------|--------------|
| From 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019 | 39 |
| From 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020 | 42 |
| From 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021 | 35 |
| From 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022 | 34 |
| From 1st April 2022 to date | 43 |

Question 5: How many inquests (in which your organisation was involved) were concluded in the following years:

- From 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019
- From 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020
- From 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021
- From 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022
- From 1st April 2022 to date

Answer: Please see table below:

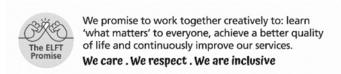
| Period | No of inquests |
|----------------------------------------|----------------|
| From 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019 | 152 |
| From 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020 | 126 |
| From 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021 | 120 |
| From 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022 | 117 |
| From 1st April 2022 to date | 128 |

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Question 6: How much did your organisation pay the external suppliers of legal services for the provision of legal support at inquests:

- From 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019
- From 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020
- From 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021
- From 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022
- From 1st April 2022 to date



Answer:

The Trust has reviewed question 6 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 on payment to external suppliers of legal services and is therefore unable to provide a response.

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