

**Information Governance**

Robert Dolan House  
9 Alie Street  
London  
E1 8DE

**Email** [elft.foi@nhs.net](mailto:elft.foi@nhs.net)

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

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: [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:** 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 5723	Substantive 6061	Substantive 6604	Substantive 7765	Substantive 8077
Bank 1246	Bank 1302	Bank 1797	Bank 1612	Bank 2204
Honorary 932	Honorary 1206	Honorary 1452	Honorary 1766	Honorary 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
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>£3,066,849.58</b>

**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:



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<b>In-House Legal Dept Staffing Cost</b>	
<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>
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
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>£1,667,431.14</b>

**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:

<b>Period</b>	<b>No of Claims</b>
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:

<b>Period</b>	<b>No of inquests</b>
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

**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



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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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