

**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>

30 August 2023

**Our reference: FOI DA4874**

I am responding to your request for information received 2 August 2023. 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. However, in this instance and in order to assist you, we have provided a partial response to your request as per below.

In order to assist you with your request, I have advised below the timing each question would take to help you to refine your request. If you wish to refine your request to comply with the eighteen 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,

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



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'what matters' to everyone, achieve a better quality  
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**We care . We respect . We are inclusive**

**Interim Chief Executive:** Lorraine Sunduza  
**Chair:** Eileen Taylor

Tel: 0303 123 1113  
Web: [www.ico.org.uk](http://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**



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**Request:** I am writing to formally request information under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I am seeking details related to the fire damper maintenance regime within the sites covered under the East London NHS Foundation Trust trust, specifically pertaining to the current contractor, number of dampers, annual cost, responsible person for the contract, and the contract renewal date for each site within the trust.

Kindly provide the following information:

**Question 1: Details of the Current Fire Damper Maintenance Regime:**  
a. The established fire damper maintenance schedule or plan.  
b. Frequency of inspections and maintenance activities conducted on fire dampers within East London NHS Foundation Trust premises.

**Answer:** This information can be collated in an hour.

**Question 2: Current Contractor Information:**  
a. The name of the contractor responsible for fire damper maintenance within East London NHS Foundation Trust.  
b. Contact details of the contractor, including address, phone number, and email.

**Answer:** This information can be collated in an hour.

**Question 3: Number of Dampers: The total number of fire dampers present across each of the East London NHS Foundation Trust facilities.**

**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 the information held, however, this is not recorded in a searchable format. It is estimated, it would take 37.5 hours to collate.

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 4: Annual Cost: The annual costs associated with the fire damper maintenance contract.**

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

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**Question 5: Responsible Person for the Contract: The name and contact information (including email and phone number) of the individual responsible for overseeing the fire damper maintenance contract across the trust.**

Answer: This information can be collated in an hour.

**Question 6: Contract Renewal Date: The date on which the current fire damper maintenance contract is due for renewal.**

Answer: This information can be collated in an hour.



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