

Information Governance

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20 February 2024

Our reference: FOI DA5195

I am responding to your request for information received 5 February 2024. 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

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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Interim Chief Executive Officer: Lorraine Sunduza
Chair: Eileen Taylor

Request:

Question 1: How many patients have you dealt with where the noise levels of the London Underground/Tube have been noted as a contributing factor behind their health issues? Please can I have data for 2023, 2022, 2021 and 2020.

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 1 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 40 for the FOI Act states:

(2) This exemption covers the personal data of third parties (anyone other than the requester) where complying with the request would breach any of the principles in the UK GDPR.

In order for the Trust to provide the information requested, staff would have to access patient records. We do not have a legal basis to access patient records for the purposes of responding to a Freedom of Information request as this would contravene the Data Protection Act 2018 / UK GDPR. The Trust is therefore unable to provide a response.

Question 2: How many people have been diagnosed with a medical condition where the noise levels of the London Underground was noted as a factor – for example – how many people have been diagnosed with hearing problems resulting from continued exposure to the noise levels on the London Underground? Please can this be broken down by year from 2020 to 2023 as well please.

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 2 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 is primarily a Mental Health and Community Health Trust and as such does not diagnose hearing loss as described in this request. We are therefore unable to provide a response.



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