

Information Governance

Robert Dolan House
9 Alie Street
London
E1 8DE

Email elft.foi@nhs.net

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

16 April 2024

Our reference: FOI DA5201

I am responding to your request for information received 6 February 2024. 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

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: The number of doctors currently registered/approved on your procurement/payments system to receive payment for undertaking MHA assessments (outside of their substantive contracts of employment)?

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 1 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 centrally record the information requested and is therefore unable to provide a response.

Question 2: Do you hold a contract with any of these doctors/companies for undertaking a set number of MHA assessments (as opposed to spot payments for each assessment undertaken)?

Answer: No.

Question 3: Do you capture the total number of MHA assessments with associated claims as opposed to number of claims (as one assessment may give rise to claims from two doctors)?

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 3 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

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

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(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to them.*

East London NHS Foundation Trust does not record the information requested and is therefore unable to provide a response.

If so, what was the total number of MHA assessments claimed for in 2022 and what was the total number of MHA assessments claimed for in 2023?

Answer: Not applicable.

Question 4: How many claims for payment for MHA assessments were received by you from doctors relating to assessments undertaken in 2022?

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 4 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

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

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East London NHS Foundation Trust does not separately record claims for payment received as requested and is therefore unable to provide a response.

Question 5: If different, how many claims for payment for MHA assessments were paid by you to doctors for assessments undertaken in 2022?

Answer: 2259 claims for MHA assessments were paid in 2022.

Question 6: How many claims for payment for MHA assessments were received by you from doctors relating to assessments undertaken in 2023?

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 separately record claims for payment received as requested and is therefore unable to provide a response.

Question 7: If different, how many claims for payment for MHA assessments were paid by you to doctors for assessments undertaken in 2023?

Answer: 3517 claims for MHA assessments were paid in 2023.

Question 8: Do you make use of the s12 app? If so, approximately what % of doctors' claims are made through this app?

Answer: No.

Question 9: In 2023 what was the number of claims made in relation to patients who are registered with a GP in your geography but were assessed under the MHA within the boundaries of another ICB (out of area patients) – ie where you have paid for a doctor to travel out of area to assess a patient?

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 9 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 on out of area assessments that have taken place and is therefore unable to provide a response.

Question 10: In 2023 what was the number of claims made in relation to patients registered with a GP within the boundaries of another ICB but were assessed under the MHA whilst located within your geography (assessments undertaken under reciprocal arrangements) – ie have you made any payments to doctors in respect of assessments of patients registered with another ICB?



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Answer: Zero. The patient's ICB would be responsible for paying the fee.

Question 11: Where doctors undertake MHA assessments what is the standard fee (in 2023) you pay them?

Answer: In 2023 the standard fee was £173.37.

Question 12: Do you make payment to the doctor where an assessment cannot be completed (but the doctor attends the arranged location)? If so, is this at the same rate?

Answer: Yes. Payment is at the same rate.

Question 13: Do you make payment for mileage incurred to undertake assessments? If so, what is the rate (in 2023)?

Answer: Yes. The rate is 23 pence per mile.

Question 14: Is the same mileage rate paid to doctors under contract (if you have any) as for ad hoc assessments?

Answer: Not applicable.



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