



**East London**  
NHS Foundation Trust  
**Information Governance**  
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10 June 2025

**Our reference: FOI DA6092**

I am responding to your request for information received 4 June 2025. 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)

**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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'what matters' to everyone, achieve a better quality  
of life and continuously improve our services.  
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**Chief Executive Officer:** Lorraine Sunduza  
**Chair:** Eileen Taylor

**Request:** I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request data on the use and management of short-arm casting within your Trust. For the past three calendar years (or the most recent available), broken down by month, please provide the following:

- Question 1: Clinical Outcomes & Follow-up**
- Number of short-arm casts applied
  - Re-casting (refracture) rate within 6–12 weeks
  - Complication rates (e.g. skin breakdown, pressure sores, compartment syndrome)
  - Follow-up appointment frequency for cast checks and removal

**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 is primarily a Mental Health and Community Health Trust and as such does not provide short arm casts. The Trust is therefore unable to provide a response.

- Question 2: Financial & Resource Metrics**
- Average cost per short-arm cast treatment (materials, labour and appointments)
  - Cost comparison between plaster and fibreglass casts
  - Total annual spend on casting materials
  - Costs associated with cast-related complications or unplanned re-interventions

**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:

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- Question 3: Staff Time & Workforce**
- Staff time allocation per cast application (by professional category)
  - Average staff time required for application and removal of a short-arm cast
  - Number of staff trained to apply and remove short-arm casts

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

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

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**Question 4: Patient Experience**

- **Patient-reported issues (e.g. hygiene difficulties, discomfort, lifestyle interference)**

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

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