



East London

NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance

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22 September 2025

Our reference: FOI DA6184

I am responding to your request for information received 1 August 2025. 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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Chief Executive Officer: Lorraine Sunduza
Chair: Eileen Taylor

Request: NHS Cloud Services FOI Request
Please respond to the following questions as completely as possible.

Question 1: Please provide your organisation's total spend on cloud infrastructure for the last three financial years. (Please use the following categories)

- <£1M
- £1M - £2M
- £2M-£5M
- £5M-£10M
- >£10M
- 2022-2023
- 2023-2024
- 2024-2025

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

Section 31(1)(a) of the FOI Act states:

31(1) Information which is not exempt information by virtue of section 30 is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice

(a) the prevention or detection of crime,

The information requested, if released into the public domain, could have the potential to identify weaknesses within the Trust's digital infrastructure, leaving it open to cyber threat. For this reason an exemption has been applied.

Question 2: Please list all of the hyperscaler cloud providers your organization currently uses:

- Amazon Web Services (AWS)
- Google Cloud Platform (GCP)
- Alibaba Cloud
- Microsoft Azure
- Oracle Cloud Infrastructure (OCI)
- Other.....

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 2 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 31(1)(a) of the FOI Act states:

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The information requested, if released into the public domain, could have the potential to identify weaknesses within the Trust's digital infrastructure, leaving it open to cyber threat. For this reason an exemption has been applied.

Question 3: Is your organisation considering using more than one cloud provider?

- Yes – already doing this
- Yes – under consideration
- No
- No, considering switching fully
- Other.....

Answer: Yes – already doing this.



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**Question 4: Do you have any commercial agreements with any cloud providers?
If yes, please provide contract details (e.g. start/end date, amount, where you found the provider)**

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

Section 31(1)(a) of the FOI Act states:

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Question 5: Please list the internal departments with the highest utilisation of cloud services.

- **Corporate Services**
- **Finance and Resources**
- **Adult Social Care and Health**
- **Children's Services and Education**
- **Housing and Homelessness**
- **Other.....**

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 5 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 31(1)(a) of the FOI Act states:

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(a) the prevention or detection of crime,

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Question 6: What percentage of your organisation's data is currently hosted on cloud platforms versus on premises?

- **<10% hosted on cloud platforms**
- **10-25% hosted on cloud platforms**
- **25-50% hosted on cloud platforms**
- **50-75% hosted on cloud platforms**
- **75-100% hosted on cloud platforms**

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 6 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 31(1)(a) of the FOI Act states:

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(a) the prevention or detection of crime,



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The information requested, if released into the public domain, could have the potential to identify weaknesses within the Trust's digital infrastructure, leaving it open to cyber threat. For this reason an exemption has been applied.

Question 7: Have you implemented any policies regarding data sovereignty and/or cloud security? (If yes, please send a copy of any policies)

- Yes
- No
- Other.....

Answer: Yes.

The Trust has reviewed question 7 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 31(1)(a) of the FOI Act states:

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(a) the prevention or detection of crime,

The policies requested, if released into the public domain, could have the potential to identify weaknesses within the Trust's digital infrastructure, leaving it open to cyber threat. For this reason an exemption has been applied.

Question 8: Please disclose any information your organisation holds relating to cyber incidents affecting your cloud systems.

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 8 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 31(1)(a) of the FOI Act states:

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(a) the prevention or detection of crime,

The information requested, if released into the public domain, could have the potential to identify weaknesses within the Trust's digital infrastructure, leaving it open to cyber threat. For this reason an exemption has been applied.

Ofcom/CMA Investigation

Ofcom has raised concerns that some of the largest cloud providers (like Amazon AWS and Microsoft Azure) make it difficult or expensive for organisations to switch providers. This led to a formal investigation by the CMA, which is expected to publish its final findings by 4 August 2025.

Question 9: Is your organisation aware of the CMA investigation into major cloud providers and the concerns around switching costs, contracts, and competition?

Yes – fully aware
Somewhat aware
Not aware
Other.....

Answer: Somewhat aware.



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Question 10: Has your organisation taken any steps in response to this (for example, discussing risks of lock-in, reviewing contracts, or exploring alternative providers)?

Yes – formal review or actions taken

Yes – informal discussions only

No steps taken

Other.....

Answer: Yes – informal discussions only.

Question 11: What concerns, if any, do you have with your current hyperscaler cloud provider?

- **Cost**
- **Security**
- **Reliability (e.g., SLAs/customer care)**
- **Vendor Lock-in**
- **Geopolitics**
- **Environmental concerns (e.g., water usage, power consumption, emissions)**
- **No concerns**
- **Other.....**

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 11 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 and is therefore unable to provide a response.



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