



East London
NHS Foundation Trust
Information Governance
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24 October 2025

Our reference: FOI DA6325

I am responding to your request for information received 22 October 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

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: Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following information relating to maternity services delivered by East London NHS Foundation Trust:

Question 1: How many pregnant women had communication needs flagged under the NHS Accessible Information Standard (AIS) between 1 Jan 2020 and 31 Aug 2025?

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 maternity services. The Trust is therefore unable to provide a response.

Question 2: Of these, how many were recorded as requiring British Sign Language (BSL) interpretation?

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: Number and percentage of instances where an in-person BSL interpreter was provided during:

- Antenatal/prenatal appointments
- Intrapartum period (labour and childbirth) - including but not limited to elective caesarean section and emergency caesarean section.
- Neonatal period - including but not limited to intensive neonatal care.
- Postnatal/postpartum appointments - up to 12 months after the birth - including but not limited to community midwife and health visitor appointments.

If this breakdown is not available, please provide the total number of occasions when this was the case across all maternity services.

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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Question 4: Number and percentage of instances where video remote interpreting (VRI) was used during:

- Antenatal/prenatal appointments
- Intrapartum period (labour and childbirth) - including but not limited to elective caesarean section and emergency caesarean section
- Neonatal period - including but not limited to intensive neonatal care.
- Postnatal/postpartum appointments - up to 12 months after the birth - including but not limited to community midwife and health visitor appointments.

If this breakdown is not available, please provide the total number of occasions when this was the case across all maternity services.

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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Question 5: Number and percentage of instances where no interpreter was provided despite sign language needs being recorded.

- Antenatal/prenatal appointments - including but not limited to elective caesarean section and emergency caesarean section.
- Intrapartum period (labour and childbirth) - including but not limited to elective caesarean section and emergency caesarean section
- Neonatal period - including but not limited to intensive neonatal care.
- Postnatal/postpartum appointments - up to 12 months after the birth - including but not limited to community midwife and health visitor appointments.

If this breakdown is not available, please provide the total number of occasions when this was the case across all maternity services.

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 5 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 6: The number of:
elective caesarean sections involving deaf, hard of hearing, hearing-impaired, or deafened patients**

emergency caesarean sections involving deaf, hard of hearing, hearing-impaired, or deafened patients

If this breakdown is not available, please provide the total number of caesarean sections - elective and emergency - involving deaf, hard of hearing, hearing-impaired, or deafened patients.

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:

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(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.*

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Question 7: Number of Datix incidents, complaints, or serious incident reports between Jan 2020 – Aug 2025 involving deaf, hard of hearing, hearing impaired or deafened patients.

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 7 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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