



**East London**  
NHS Foundation Trust  
**Information Governance**  
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**Website:** <https://www.elft.nhs.uk>

26/01/2026

**Our reference: FOI DA6442**

I am responding to your request for information received 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2026. 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**



We promise to work together creatively to: learn 'what matters' to everyone, achieve a better quality of life and continuously improve our services.  
**We care . We respect . We are inclusive**

**Chief Executive Officer:** Lorraine Sunduza  
**Chair:** Eileen Taylor

**Request:**

For the most recent 12-month period available (for example 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025, or the latest complete 12-month period you hold data for), please provide:

- Question 1:** Patients referred to private ultrasound providers due to NHS delays
- a) The number of patients who were referred, redirected, or sent to a private ultrasound scan provider because the NHS waiting time was delayed or the Trust could not offer an appointment within the expected timeframe.
- b) Where available, please confirm whether these private scans were:
- funded by the NHS (e.g., outsourced/commissioned under the NHS), OR
  - self-funded by the patient (private payment).
- Please confirm the exact date range used in your response.

**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 ultrasound services. The Trust is therefore unable to provide a response.

- Question 2:** If recorded, please provide the names of the private scan providers used (or the number of patients per provider).
- GP-referred ultrasound waiting times (NHS)**  
For GP-referred ultrasound scans in the same 12-month period, please provide:
- a) The average (mean) and median waiting time from receipt of GP referral to the completed ultrasound scan.
- b) If available, a monthly breakdown of GP ultrasound waiting times.
- c) The number (or percentage) of GP-referred patients who waited longer than:
- 2 weeks
  - 4 weeks
  - 6 weeks
- Please confirm the exact date range used in your response.

**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.*



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