



East London

**NHS Foundation Trust
Information Governance**

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22nd April 2026

Our reference: FOI DA6508

We are responding to your request for information received 26th February 2026. We are sorry for the delay in responding to your request. This has been treated as a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

We are now enclosing a response which is attached to the end of this letter. Please do not hesitate to contact us on the contact details above if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

FOI Team

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

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Chief Executive Officer: Lorraine Sunduza
Chair: Eileen Taylor

Request:

Question 1: Any local service models or pathway adaptations that influence capacity, demand, or access to imaging and biomarkers.

Answer: Patients seen for initial assessment are referred for imaging at an Acute hospital. Waiting time for imaging is determined by Acute Hospital. Access to biomarkers is by a separate referral to neurology if needed.

Question 2: If available, please provide any SOPs, pathway diagrams, or service specifications (with personal data removed)

Answer: Please see Appendix 1

Question 3: Activity and Demand for the last three natural years (2025, 2024, 2023)

- Referral rate per 100,000 population of your memory clinic's catchment area per year.
- Referral routes (GP, internal mental health teams, acute trusts, self referral, other).

Answer: Please see table below:

Referral Calendar Year	Team Name	Referral Rate per 100K of local population
2023	Bedford Older People Memory Assessment Service	167.9
2023	Mid Bedfordshire Older People Memory Assessment Service	129.73
2023	South Bedfordshire Older People Memory Assessment Service	106.79
2023	City & Hackney Dementia Service Diagnostic	213.64
2023	Luton Memory Assessment Service	404.88
2023	Newham Mental Health Care of Older People Memory Service Diagnostic Assessment Service	263.5
2023	Tower Hamlets Mental Health Care of Older People Memory Clinic	284.25
2024	Tower Hamlets Mental Health Care of Older People Memory Clinic	299.08
2024	Newham Mental Health Care of Older People Memory Service Diagnostic Assessment Service	278.31
2024	Luton Memory Assessment Service	403.99
2024	City & Hackney Dementia Service Diagnostic	221.48
2024	South Bedfordshire Older People Memory Assessment Service	135.15
2024	Mid Beds Older People Memory Assessment Service	156.63
2024	Bedford Older People Memory Assessment Service	168.11
2025	Bedford Older People Memory Assessment Service	163.93
2025	Mid Bedfordshire Older People Memory Assessment Service	167.9
2025	South Bedfordshire Older People Memory Assessment Service	140.57



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2025	City & Hackney Dementia Service Diagnostic	236.05
2025	Luton Memory Assessment Service	453.27
2025	Newham Mental Health Care of Older People Memory Service Diagnostic Assessment Service	261.22
2025	Tower Hamlets Mental Health Care of Older People Memory Clinic	331.3

For both East London and Luton & Bedfordshire, referral routes are via GP, internal mental health teams, acute trusts, self-referral

Question 4: Waiting Times

Please provide mean and median waiting times (in 2023, 2024, 2025):

- From referral to initial assessment.
- From initial assessment to diagnosis of dementia (or conclusion of the assessment episode including formal diagnosis of MCI).

Answer: Please see table below:

Report Year	Median waiting time referral to initial assessment (days)	Mean waiting time referral to initial assessment (days)
2023	49	60
2024	45	59
2025	52	60

Report Year	Median waiting time initial assessment to diagnosis (days)	Mean waiting time initial assessment to diagnosis (days)
2023	6	63
2024	12	64
2025	43	91

Question 5: Diagnostic Process

- Do non medical professionals conduct routine diagnostic initial assessments and do these require medical input in anyway?
- Neuroimaging: Is a head scan carried out prior to initial assessments? (CT, MRI, PET modalities).
- Biomarkers: Are any biomarkers (blood, CSF) available as a part of the diagnostic process?

Answer:

- Majority of the routine diagnostic assessments are carried out by a doctor, minority by a band 7 nurse and discussed in the MDT with a doctor.
- Neuroimaging is not carried out prior to initial assessments unless completed by GP prior to referral or as part of scan available e.g. in A&E or already recorded in HIE (Health Information Exchange, the shared care record across North East London).
- Biomarkers blood are not available as a part of diagnostic process



Question 6: Pharmacological Treatment and Post Diagnostic Support: Are non medical prescribers involved in routinely prescribing medication, and if they do, do they have to routinely confer with a medical professional?

Answer Within ELFT there are non-medical prescribers that provide input into memory services. It would be expected that they would receive clinical support and supervision from medical colleagues.

Question 7: Workforce and Assessment Model

- **Which of the roles listed below are exclusively dedicated to memory clinic work (PLEASE MARK WITH X):**
 - **Medical consultants**
 - **Non consultant doctors**
 - **B8 Nursing staff**
 - **B7 Nursing staff**
 - **B6 Nursing staff**
 - **B5 Nursing Staff**
 - **Occupational therapists**
 - **Clinical Psychology**
 - **Assistant Psychologist**
 - **Support workers / assistants**
 - **Administrative staff**
 - **Indicate for each non medical clinician whether they are non medical prescribers.**

Answer:

- **Medical consultants**
- **Non consultant doctors**
- **Administrative staff**
- **Band 7 nursing staff**

Question 8: Number of yearly initial assessments (in 2025), separately for:

- **Medical Staff**
- **Non-medical clinical staff**

Answer Please see table below:

Report Year	Number of Medical Staff initial assessments conducted at memory clinics	Number of Non Medical Staff initial assessments conducted at memory clinics	Total Count
2025	931	2797	3728

Question 9: Could you provide information regarding the number of face-to-face and non-face-to-face contacts in 2025?

Answer Please see table below:

Report Year	Count of Face-to-Face Contacts	Count of Non Face-to-Face Contacts	Total Count
2025	2638	1090	3728



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Question 10: Is your team involved after the assessment and initiation of treatment in providing post diagnostic support, or is this provided by another provider? (VCSE etc.)

Answer Yes. The service provides post diagnostic support for patients and carers.



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