



East London

NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance

Robert Dolan House

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London

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Website: <https://www.elft.nhs.uk>

21st May 2026

Our reference: FOI DA6622

We are responding to your request for information received 20th May 2026. This has been treated as a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

When an organisation receives a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act, it is allowed under the Act to apply a blanket exemption to this where it has concluded that providing a response would take in excess of eighteen hours.

When the cost of compliance and extracting information would exceed eighteen hours, a cost limit of £450 can be applied. This is explained in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is based on a rate of £25 per hour, regardless of the rate of pay of any individual involved in the retrieval of requested information, and equates to eighteen hours work.

Having reviewed your request, the Trust has noted that it would not be able to provide the information requested within the eighteen hours specified in the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

In order to assist you with your request, we have advised below the timing each question would take to help you to refine your request. If you wish to refine your request to comply with the eighteen hour time limit, please do get in touch.

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.



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Chair: Eileen Taylor

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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Request:

Question 1: I would like to know how much your trust spends on the following items:

- A4 paper
- Toothpicks
- Disposable gloves
- Disposable cutlery
- Tweezers
- Safety Pins
- Cotton swabs/Q-tips
- Cotton pads
- Disposable face masks
- Paper bed roll

For each item, please can you provide the following information for each financial year, from 2018/19 to 2025/26:

- Total units ordered
- Total cost
- Name of the main supplier for the item
- Total money paid to the main supplier
- Expense type/categorisation

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

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:
Section 12(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit

The Trust has reviewed your request for information and in order to collate this information, it would be necessary to review every contract which are relevant to the items listed and every invoice from the relevant time period to review and collate the relevant information. This is estimated to exceed 18 hours.



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