



East London
NHS Foundation Trust
Information Governance
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28th August 2026

Our reference: FOI DA6691

We are responding to your request for information received 30th June 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

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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'what matters' to everyone, achieve a better quality
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Chief Executive Officer: Lorraine Sunduza
Chair: Eileen Taylor

Request: I am writing on behalf of the British Association of Prosthetics and Orthotics (BAPO) to make a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (or the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 where applicable).

BAPO is the professional body representing Prosthetists and Orthotists across the United Kingdom. We are seeking to understand the current provision of bracing services, including both chest braces and vacuum bells, for Pectus deformities (Pectus Carinatum and Pectus Excavatum) across NHS Trusts and Health Boards. This information is being sought to support our work in monitoring service provision and access for patients with these conditions.

The questions below are designed to establish whether your organisation provides an orthotics service, whether that service includes bracing for Pectus deformities, which service is responsible for the provision of the brace or vacuum bell, and how referral demand for this service has changed over recent years.

Question 1: Does your Trust/Health Board currently have an orthotics service?

Answer: No

Question 2: Does your Trust/Health Board provide bracing (chest brace and/or vacuum bell) for Pectus deformities?

Answer: No

Question 3: If you answered Yes to Question 2: Does your service provide bracing for Pectus Carinatum, Pectus Excavatum, or both?

Answer: Not applicable.

Question 4: If you answered Yes to Question 2: Is the orthotics service responsible for the provision of the brace and/or vacuum bell?

Answer: Not applicable.

Question 5: If you answered No to Question 4: Which service is responsible for the provision of the brace and/or vacuum bell?

Answer: Not applicable.

Question 6: If you answered No to Question 2: Are there any plans for your Trust/Health Board to begin providing this service?

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:

*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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Question 7: Over the last 3 years, have you seen an increase in the number of referrals for bracing of Pectus conditions?

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

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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

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