

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

RF23-551

Request:

1. The total number of times exterminators or pest control services were called at each hospital between 2018 and 2023 to date.
2. A detailed breakdown of the reasons or specific pest issues that led to the calls for exterminators during this period and the actions exterminators and pest control took to remedy this.
3. The total cost incurred, broken down by hospital, for pest control services, including the costs of removing pests, shooting pigeons, and other related expenses in the timeframe.

Response:

We can confirm East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust (EKHUFT) holds the information you have requested.

However, we are unable to comply with part two of your request as the cost of responding to all parts would exceed the appropriate cost limit of £450 for NHS bodies, as defined in section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act. The £450 limit is reached by using a standard charge-out rate of £25 an hour, which equates to 18 hours' work.

To respond to part two would entail having to review each call out separately to obtain the reasons and actions that were taken. As there are over 2300 call-outs this would exceed the appropriate cost limit as defined by the FOI Act.

We have considered ways in which your request might be narrowed or limited in order to reduce the cost of complying with it. We consider that we may be able to provide you with questions (1) and (3). If this would be of interest to you please submit a new FOI request to us.

(DATE OF RESPONSE: 22 SEPTEMBER 2023)

