

Please reply to:

Name: [REDACTED]
Title: FOI Officer
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Redacted Personal
Information

13 March 2025

Freedom of information request

I am writing in response to your request for information which has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

1. What colour scrubs do your physician associates working in Accident and Emergency wear within your Emergency Department? Jade (green) and embroidered "Physician Associate" on the chest, they also wear distinct yellow lanyards with SASH Physician Associate printed on them. We also display posters and screens around the department with this information on.

2. What colour scrubs do your resident doctors (grades F2, CT1-2, ST3+) working in Accident and Emergency wear within your Emergency Department? Tier 3 or 4 doctors wear Red scrubs with Emergency Department Registrar embroidery. Resident doctors below the ST3+/equivalent usually wear their own scrubs which are often blue but no colour is mandated as these doctors frequently rotate.

3. Do you have a published local (pertaining to East Surrey Hospital) Scope of Practice for Physician Associates employed at your hospital? Is this accessible freely on your intranet? Can you provide me a copy in replying to this email? The scope of practice policy is currently under review, and then will be sent for approval. Therefore, we are unable to share at this stage.

4. Aas there a DATIX or Root Cause Analysis pertaining to the patient featured in the Coroner's report here (Ref 2025-01-07, <https://www.judiciary.uk/prevention-of-future-death-reports/pamela-marking-prevention-of-future-deaths-report/>)? Can you provide me with an appropriately redacted copy of the report?

This specific patient's death was reviewed by an independent medical examiner who advised a review in a mortality and morbidity meeting (M&M) – this was duly reviewed in

the general surgery M&M meeting. Our incident reporting software is Inphase (not Datix) and this patient's death was not reported on Inphase as a patient safety incident.

5. In the period between 01 Jan 2024 and 01 Jan 2025, how many doctors' shifts were filled by Physician Associates? What grades were the doctors' shifts initially?

Doctors shifts are not filled by Physician Associates - The Trust's Emergency Department operates with a Tier 2 multidisciplinary team rota as per the Royal College of Emergency Medicine, including Emergency Department Physician Associates. The rota team ensure skill mix is considered.

6. Over an average 24 hour shift, how many physician associates staff your Emergency Department? At any given time, how many Emergency Medicine Consultants are present in your Emergency Department? The emergency department has between one (on weekends) and four emergency consultants working clinically at any one time. In a 24hr period, we could have no Physician Associates or up to 2 on the rota.

I hope this information is helpful, but if you are unhappy with our response, or the way in which your request has been handled, you may request an independent internal review. This would be undertaken by an appropriate senior member of staff at the Trust, who were not involved in dealing with your original request. We aim to deal with internal reviews within 20 working days following receipt. If you wish to request one, please set out your grounds for asking for the review in writing and send it by post or email:

By post: Please address your letter to "Freedom of Information – Information Access Appeal" and send it to our address as shown on this letter.

By Email: Emails should be clearly marked 'Information access appeal' and sent to: sash.foi@nhs.net.

Should you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you would have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). However, I should point out that under section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, you are obliged to exhaust the Trust's own internal review process before appealing to the ICO. The ICO's contact details are:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113
<http://ico.org.uk>

We would also welcome your feedback on how well we met your expectations in handling your FOIA request. If you have a couple of minutes, please click on this [link](#) to complete our Freedom of Information Customer Satisfaction Survey and let us know about your experience. The survey is anonymous – unless you choose to provide your reference number.

Please contact me, quoting our reference, if you have any queries concerning this letter and I will be happy to help.

Yours sincerely

A black rectangular redaction mark covering the signature of the sender.

FOI Officer