

Pest Control

Reference Number: RDF1875-23

Date of Response: 09/10/23

Further to your Freedom of Information Act request, please find the Trust's response(s) below:

Please be aware that the Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (Royal Devon) has existed since 1st April 2022 following the integration of the Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust (known as Northern Services) and the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust (known as Eastern Services).

Dear FOI team,

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act regarding pest control measures at your NHS Trust's hospital sites over the last five years.

Specifically, I would like to obtain the following data:

- 1. The total number of times exterminators or pest control services were called at each hospital between 2018 and 2023 to date.*

Answer: Please see below. Please note that pest control in the community for Eastern Services is the responsibility of NHS Property Services <https://www.property.nhs.uk/>

Hospital	2018 to 2023
Northern Services - North Devon District & Community	94
Eastern Services - Royal Devon & Exeter, Heavitree & Mardon	331
Total	425

- 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.*

Answer: The main reasons for call outs are ants and mice. Exterminators will put down bait traps containing a poison. Other reasons include: Black Ants, Wasps, Bedbugs, Silverfish, Flies, Birds, Fleas, Cockroaches, Rats, Mice, Bird Proofing, Crawling Insects, EFK Service, Other.

- 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.*

Answer: Please see below.

Hospital	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Northern Services - North Devon District & Community	3,924	3,807	3,935	8,515	11,122	5,519
*Eastern Services - Royal Devon & Exeter, Heavitree & Mardon	13,622	13,836	11,727	8,447	12,675	12,231
Grand Total	17,546	17,643	15,662	16,962	23,797	17,750