

Freedom of Information Act Request

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am writing to make an application for data using the Freedom of Information Act. Please could you release the below in a "machine readable" format. If available, please provide for me statistics for either the calendar or financial years from 2020 to 2025 (or 2020/1 to 2025/6, or as much as available for the latter).

1. Across the entire Trust, how many people have been treated for injuries in A&E where they have been recorded as having been involved in a collision with an e-bike (of any kind)? If at all possible, can you say whether they were pedestrians or fellow cyclists? I am particularly interested in the former. Please include the patient's age, sex and whether they have any recorded disability.
2. Can you please break the above down for each hospital within your Trust, including - if possible - the date of admission and discharge.
3. Please include the severity of the injury (ie lower/upper limb fracture/concussion).
4. If available, please include how many - if any - of these culminated in a fatality.
5. If available, please include what type of e-bike was involved. I understand some notes have stated whether a "Lime", "Forest", "Human Forest" or "Tier" were involved.
6. If possible, please state whether the bike was moving or stationary. On some occasions, vulnerable pedestrians, such as the blind or elderly, have tripped over badly parked e-bikes. To be able to identify such incidents would be very useful.
7. If there are any other details that you could include, such as a short description of any notes (without obviously revealing the injured parties identities) I would be very grateful.

Your request asks for highly specific information relating to A&E attendances involving e-bike collisions, including circumstances of the incident, injury severity, vehicle type, pedestrian involvement, patient characteristics, outcomes, and narrative descriptions, over a multi-year period and broken down by hospital site.

The Trust does not hold this information in a single coded or reportable dataset.

To attempt to provide this information would require:

- Identifying all A&E attendances over the requested time period
- Manually reviewing individual free-text clinical notes to determine:
 - Whether an e-bike was involved
 - Whether the patient was a pedestrian, cyclist, or other party
 - The type or brand of e-bike (e.g. Lime, Forest, Tier)
 - Whether the bike was moving or stationary
 - The circumstances of the incident (e.g. poorly parked bike)
 - Injury mechanism and severity
 - Any fatalities related to the incident

This would involve the manual review of a very large volume of individual patient records, taking significantly more than 18 hours of staff time, exceeding the cost limit set out in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004.

The Trust is therefore applying Section 12(1) of the Act.

2. Information not held

In addition, the Trust does **not routinely record or code** the majority of the specific data points you have requested in a structured or retrievable format. In particular:

- **Cause of injury involving e-bikes** is not recorded as a discrete, searchable data field within A&E systems
- **Whether a patient was a pedestrian or cyclist** is not consistently coded
- **E-bike brand or operator** (e.g. Lime, Forest, Tier) is not routinely recorded
- **Whether a bike was stationary or moving** is not a coded data item
- **Narrative descriptions of incidents** exist only within free-text clinical notes
- **Disability status** is not routinely recorded in a way that can be reliably linked to specific injury mechanisms

Where such details are recorded at all, they may appear only in unstructured free-text clinical documentation, and are not held in a way that allows them to be extracted without manual review. As a result, this information is not held in a reportable form for the purposes of the Freedom of Information Act.

If you are not satisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Requests for an internal review should be submitted within 40 working days from the date of this response, and should be addressed to d.wraith@nhs.net.

If you remain dissatisfied after the internal review, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 0303 123 1113
Website: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/>

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