

**Reference Number:** FOI2021/212  
**From:** Private Individual  
**Date:** 18 June 2021  
**Subject:** Deaths caused by care

With reference to the [following reporting guidelines set out by NHS Improvement](#) (see page 15, prescribed information 27.1 to 27.5).

- Q1 Please tell me separately for 2019/20 and 2020/21 the number of patients who have died during the reporting period
- A1 [2019/20 – 189 in hospital deaths at LHCH](#)  
[2020/21 – 191 in hospital deaths at LHCH](#)
- Q2 The number of deaths included in 2019/20 and 2020/21 which the provider has subjected to a case record review or an investigation to determine what problems (if any) there were in the care provided to the patient
- A2 [Whilst every death is the subject of an initial mortality screen to identify any issues with care, the numbers below show the subsequent full investigations.](#)  
[2019/20 – 43 full investigations into hospital deaths at LHCH](#)  
[2020/21 – 38 full investigations into hospital deaths at LHCH](#)
- Q3 An estimate of the number of deaths in 2019/20 and 2020/21 for which a case record review or investigation has been carried out which the provider judges as a result of the review or investigation were more likely than not to have been due to problems in the care provided to the patient, with an explanation of the methods used to assess this.
- A3 [2019/20 – 8 in hospital deaths at LHCH were deemed to have been more likely than not to have been avoidable](#)  
[2020/21 – 9 in hospital deaths at LHCH were deemed to have been more likely than not to have been avoidable](#)
- Q4 Please provide me with a brief overview of the FIRST FIVE incidents (in 2020/21 preferably or from 2019/20 if this is not yet available) identified in question 3 (i.e. cases of deaths that were more likely than not caused by problems in care), withholding any identifying information that would run into a Section 40 exemption.
- A4 [The requested information is held by the Trust however disclosure is being exempted under Section 38: Health and Safety, specifically S38\(b\) disclosure would or would be likely to endanger the safety of any individual.](#)

We have assessed the public interest in disclosure and believe the only factor for release would be openness and transparency, outweighed by the factors against release. Release could cause harm to the mental health of surviving relatives and may have an adverse impact on public health because patients may delay or cancel their treatment with the Trust.

- Q5 Finally, can you please summarise what the Trust learnt and what actions have been taken as a result of the aforementioned cases/investigations.
- A5 As above, the requested information is held by the Trust however disclosure is being exempted under Section 38: Health and Safety, specifically S38(b) disclosure would or would be likely to endanger the safety of any individual.