

Reference Number: FOI202223/393
From: Private Individual
Date: 12 January 2023
Subject: Number of patient deaths, wait times and patient discharges

Q1 The total number of deaths considered more likely than not to have occurred due to problems in care in the trust for each quarter for which records are available

A1

Financial Year	Avoidable Deaths
2017/18	Seven
2018/19	Five
2019/20	Eight
2020/21	Nine
2021/22	Ten
2022/23	S40

Total figures for each calendar year have been provided however quarterly breakdown and data for 2022/23 to date have been exempted under Section 40: Personal Information of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000 to reduce the risk of any individuals being identified. The Trust is of the view that disclosure of such information would significantly increase the risk of individuals being identified and as such would constitute a breach of their personal data.

The Trust has applied exemption Section 40(2) of the FOIA and is therefore withholding the information as disclosure which may identify an individual would breach their rights under the Data Protection Act 2018. The grounds for application of this exemption include:

- Any data relating to patients or staff is third party data, furthermore health data is classified as sensitive personal data within the Data Protection Act 2018. As such, Section 40 (2) of the FOIA applies along with the Trusts duty of confidentiality. Therefore under s.2 (3) (f) (ii) of the FOIA, there is an absolute exemption from disclosure on the grounds that it would contravene the First Data Protection Principle.
- The Trust has a duty under the Data Protection Act 2018 and specifically the First Data Protection Principle to ensure personal data regarding staff and patients is processed fairly and lawfully. Disclosure of such data which may identify an individual, either through the data alone or other data in conjunction with that data which may identify an individual would therefore breach this principle.
- The Data Protection Act 2018 defines sensitive personal data to include data relating to the “physical or mental health or condition” of a person. Any such information about specific individuals falls within this category and disclosure of such data including statistical data, with any potential likelihood of identification would breach the Data Protection Act 2018.

Q2 The highest number of days of delayed discharge in your trust in of 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022.

A2

2018	37 days
2019	48 days
2020	41 days
2021	48 days
2022	51 days

Q3 The longest waiting time recorded in 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 for a patient to receive the result of each of the following diagnostic tests:

- Magnetic Resonance Imaging test (MRI)
- Echocardiogram
- Non-obstetric ultrasound

A3

	Magnetic Resonance Imaging test (MRI)	Echocardiogram	Non-obstetric ultrasound
2018	13	13	Eight
2019	13	13	Nine
2020	13	13	12
2021	13	13	Eight
2022	13	13	Seven

Q4 The longest period of time that a patient spent on a waiting list for a non urgent operation in 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022. For each year, please also include, if possible, which category of operation is concerned.

A4

2018	Coronary Artery Bypass Grafts (CABG) & Valve	216 Weeks
2019	CABG	153 Weeks
2020	Pacing	146 Weeks
2021	Valve	134 Weeks
2022	Cardiac Surgery	153 Weeks

Q5 The numbers of patients removed from outpatient or elective care waiting lists with a removal reason of death, for 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022.

A5

2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
149	127	201	224	240

The above data includes Referrals, Referral to Treatment (RTT), In Patient Wait List and Out Patient Wait List information.