Thank you for your request concerning investigations and severe incidents resulting from death.

Your request has been considered and processed in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000.

Under section 12 of the FOIA a public authority does not have to comply with a request for information if the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit. There were 899 deaths since 1 January 2009 and 7 July 2016; this would mean looking at each individual record to answer your questions:

1. The number of investigations that followed deaths, including sudden and unexpected deaths, in your organisation since 2009.
   a) It was independently conducted?
   b) Who carried these out?

2. The number of severe incidents that took place and whether any of these were investigated
   a) Whether any investigation occurred?
   b) If so, how many were independently conducted?
   c) Who carried these out?

3. The number of investigations of any severe incidents or deaths that concluded that fault or neglect of a third party or staff member had contributed to the death of a patient under the care of your organisation at the time?

   We have carried out preliminary assessment and estimate that it would take approximately 5 minutes to manually review each individual record to extract the above information (899 @ 5 minutes per file) this adds up to 75 hours @ £25 per hour, equating to £1,875.

   Following on from our correspondence on 24 June 2016 even narrowing the request to 5 years would be above the appropriate cost limit as there were 589 deaths between 2011 and 2015.
4. Have you undertaken, or plan to undertake, an assessment of your avoidable mortality rates in response to Professor Sir Bruce Keogh’s request to all medical trust directors in December 2015? If so, what have your findings been?

Yes, the Trust has provided a response to Professor Sir Bruce Keogh’s request and await the outcome of this work from NHS England.

We established systems and processes to review all deaths reported to us. This process enables the Trust to identify any areas of learning for the services we deliver and reports to our Board as part of our routine patient safety reporting system. We are also working with other mental health providers and NHS Improvement on work to set out the framework for mortality governance in mental health trusts.

Should you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please find enclosed an information sheet regarding copyright protection and the Trust’s complaints procedure in the event that you are not satisfied with the response.

Yours sincerely

Sue Smith

Sue Smith
Information Governance Analyst

Enc: Copyright Protection and Complaints Procedure Information Leaflet.

If you would like to complete a short survey in relation to your Freedom of Information request please scan the QR code below or click here.