



13 December 2018

Information Rights & Compliance Team  
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Our Ref: FOI 3098

Thank you for your request concerning the number of deaths in service.

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

- 1) **Please state the number of deaths in service [ie: during employment, but not necessarily on the premises or during working hours] of nursing staff employed by your organisation since 2012.**

Since 2012 there have been 8 deaths in service.

- 2) (i) **Please state how many of the total deaths were recorded, known or otherwise suspected to be suicide?**

Zero.

- (ii) **Please state what the different categories of cause of death were recorded as, for the purposes of the organisation's own reporting and recording. For example; cancer, heart failure, suicide etc.**

We do not hold this information<sup>1</sup>. The cause of death would be determined by the coroner. For our reporting purposes it would be recorded as 'Death in Service'. This means that an employee died whilst still being employed by the Trust.

- 3) **Please include copies of any 'death in service' procedure or policy the organisation uses.**

Please see attached our Staff Responsible for Care after Death policy.

- 4) **Please describe if there is any work in progress to address mental health needs or suicide risk among your nursing workforce, or alternatively where there have been suicides whether there have been any changes in workplace practices as a result?**

We offer a free, confidential counselling service for all staff. This is run by a small group of experienced, professionally qualified, counsellors which can be obtained via our Occupational Health Service.

We have a spiritual care team offering support and guidance to people of all faiths or none.

The Trust has an equality and diversity staff network providing support to staff from all walks of life.

<sup>1</sup> Section 1(1) Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled (a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and (b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to him.

Schwartz Rounds are open meetings available to all staff, both clinical and non-clinical, allowing them to share their experiences and acknowledge and explore the pressures faced on a day-to-day basis.

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 Rights Officer**

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](#).

