

6 August 2019

Information Rights & Compliance Team  
99 Waverley Road  
St Albans  
Hertfordshire  
AL3 5TL

Tel: 01727 804954  
Email: [Hpkt.foi@nhs.net](mailto:Hpkt.foi@nhs.net)

Our Ref: FOI/03307

Thank you for your request concerning patients detained under S3 of the Mental Health Act absconding from hospital.

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

**For each of the individual calendar years: 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018.**

- 1) **How many patients in each of the calendar years set out above, absconded from hospital (or their treatment facility), having been detained under section three of the Mental Health Act 1983.**

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
19	23	22	12	18

**PLEASE NOTE:** We have taken 'absconded from hospital (or their treatment facility)' to mean actual absconsion from the unit, i.e. this does not include attempted absconsion, failure to return from s17 leave or abscond during escorted leave.

- 2) **For each of the individual years set out above, during the course of the calendar year, how many patients were treated by your organisation, who had been detained under section three of the Mental Health Act 1983.**

Calendar Year	Number of Inpatients Detained Under S3
2014	313
2015	342
2016	331
2017	350
2018	387

- 3) **For each of the individual years set out above, how many patients died, whilst being treated by your organisation under section three of the Mental Health Act 1983.**

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
3	1	5	4	1

- 4) For those patients that died, whilst being treated under section three of the Mental Health Act 1983, how many of those were deemed to be suicide.

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
0	0	0	0	0

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](#).

