

24 October 2022

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Our Ref: FOI/04419

Thank you for your request concerning Unexpected Deaths.

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

1. **The number of unexpected deaths at the trust's mental health units (inpatients – both informal or formal (sectioned) patient). Please breakdown (a-e below) by year (2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 so far) and if possible how many of each yearly total were under the age of 65.**
  - a) **The total number of unexpected deaths**
  - b) **The number of the unexpected deaths that progressed to a Serious Incident investigation**
  - c) **The number of unexpected deaths that were referred to a coroner**
  - d) **The number of unexpected deaths that was classed as suicide**
  - e) **The number of unexpected deaths that were not confirmed as suicide but were due to self-inflicted harm which led to the patient's death**

<b>Unexpected deaths at the Trust's Mental Health Units (inpatients – both informal or formal (sectioned) patient)</b>						
	<b>Number of Unexpected Deaths</b>	<b>Under 65</b>	<b>SI investigation</b>	<b>Referred to Coroner</b>	<b>Suicide Conclusion</b>	<b>Self-Harm Conclusion</b>
<b>2018</b>	2	2	2	2	1	0
<b>2019</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>2020</b>	1	1	1	1	No inquest yet	No inquest yet
<b>2021</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>2022</b>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

**CAVEAT:**

The figures in relation to 'Referred to Coroner' relate to information held by HPFT on our Datix incident reporting system. Information about deaths reported to HM Coroners can be found on their websites. Some of the Unexpected Deaths (for the latter years) are still awaiting a cause of death from Post Mortem and Toxicology examination and may be due to natural causes.

2. The number of unexpected deaths of mental health/service users who were outpatients. Please breakdown (a-e below) by year (2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 so far) and if possible how many of each yearly total were under the age of 65.
- The total number of unexpected deaths
  - The number that progressed to a Serious Incident investigation
  - The number of unexpected deaths that were referred (whether by the trust of by another organisation) to a coroner
  - The number of unexpected deaths that was classed as suicide
  - The number of unexpected deaths that were not confirmed as suicides but were due to self-inflicted harm which led to the patient's death

Unexpected deaths of mental health service users who were outpatients						
	No. of Unexpected Deaths	Under 65	SI investigation	Referred to Coroner	Suicide/Open Conclusion	Self-Harm Conclusion
2018	74	63	53	69	47	0
2019	53	42	40	48	35	0
2020	81	62	44	66	37	0
2021	89	77	55	77	16	0
2022	59	51	31	37	2	0

Please refer to caveats provided under question 1.

3. The total number of unexpected deaths of mental health patients who were discharged from the Trust's services 3 months or less before their death? Please breakdown (a-e below) by year (2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 so far) and if possible how many of each yearly total were under the age of 65.
- The total number of unexpected deaths
  - The number that progressed to a Serious Incident investigation
  - The number of unexpected deaths that were referred (whether by the trust of by another organisation) to a coroner
  - The number of unexpected deaths that was classed as suicide
  - The number of unexpected deaths that were not confirmed as suicides but were due to self-inflicted harm which led to the patient's death

In order for us to provide this information would involve manually going through the 356 service users records to establish if they were discharged 3 months or less before their death. At a conservative estimate of 15 mins per record, this would equate to a minimum of 89.75 hours work. Therefore we have applied exemption S12 - Cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit i.e. 89.75 hours @ £25 = £2,243.75.

Should you require further clarification or like to discuss payment, 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](#).

