

26 March 2024

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

> Tel: 01727 804227 Email: <u>Hpft.foi@nhs.net</u>

> > Our Ref: FOI/05097

Thank you for your request concerning Forensic Inpatient deaths 2021 - 23.

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

1. How many patients died between 1 January 2021 and 31st December 2023 while receiving care in a forensic in-patient ward/unit?

Please separate these based on level of security, i.e. High, Medium, and Low security and geographical location.

Although there are no special exemptions in FOIA for information about the deceased, we consider the of breakdown into service user deaths to be sensitive and an actionable breach of confidence if disclosed. Therefore we have applied Section 41 due to the small numbers¹.

This is because the number of deaths would be 5 or less and entries of 5 or less are considered sufficiently small enough to be potentially identifiable data. On this basis, this information is exempt from the duty to publish.

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.



¹ Section 41 – Disclosure would constitute a breach of confidence



