

Date: Tuesday, 29th June 2021  
Our Ref: MB/SS FOI 4778

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**Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI 4778**

We are writing in response to your request submitted under the Freedom of Information Act, received in this office on 18th June 2021.

Your request was as follows:

1) Please tell me separately for 2019/20 and 2020/21 the number of patients who have died during the reporting period

Patients who died on discharge:

2019/20 - 93

2020/21 - 111

2) The number of deaths included in 2019/20 and 2020/21 which the provider has subjected to a case record review or an investigation to determine what problems (if any) there were in the care provided to the patient

I confirm that The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust holds the information you have requested. However, I am unable to provide you with that information as I consider that the following exemptions apply to it:

**Section 40 (2) - Third Party Data**

This information is exempt from disclosure under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), due to the minimal number of patients identified, and in answering your query may lead to the undue stress of families and patients as this information may still lead to patients being identified. Therefore this information has not been released for reasons of confidentiality.

This exemption is not subject to the public interest test. This response therefore acts as a refusal notice under section 17 of the FOIA.

3) An estimate of the number of deaths in 2019/20 and 2020/21 for which a case record review or investigation has been carried out which the provider judges as a result of the review or investigation were more likely than not to have been due to problems in the care provided to the patient, with an explanation of the methods used to assess this.

As question 2.

4) Please provide me with a brief overview of the FIRST FIVE incidents (in 2020/21 preferably or from 2019/20 if this is not yet available) identified in question 3 (i.e. cases of deaths that were more likely than not caused by problems in care), withholding any identifying information that would run into a Section 40 exemption

As question 2.



5) Finally, can you please summarise what the Trust learnt and what actions have been taken as a result of the aforementioned cases/investigations.

As question 2. There were recommendations regarding Multidisciplinary reviews of complex patients with long term conditions.

Please see our response above in [blue](#).

#### **Re-Use of Public Sector Information**

All information supplied by the Trust in answering a request for information (RFI) under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 will be subject to the terms of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005, Statutory Instrument 2005 No. 1515 which came into effect on 1st July 2005.

Under the terms of the Regulations, the Trust will licence the re-use of any or all information supplied if being used in a form and for the purpose other than which it was originally supplied. This license for re-use will be in line with the requirements of the Regulations and the licensing terms and fees as laid down by the Office of Public Sector Information (OPSI). Most licenses will be free; however the Trust reserves the right, in certain circumstances, to charge a fee for the re-use of some information which it deems to be of commercial value.

Further information can be found at [www.opsi.gov.uk](http://www.opsi.gov.uk) where a sample license terms and fees can be found with guidance on copyright and publishing notes and a Guide to Best Practice and regulated advice and case studies, at [www.opsi.gov.uk/advice/psi-regulations/index.htm](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/advice/psi-regulations/index.htm)

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to the Freedom of Information Office at the address above.

**Please remember to quote the reference number, FOI 4778 in any future communications.**

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioners Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

*Mike Burns*

**Mr. Mike Burns, Executive Lead for Freedom of Information**