

Trust Headquarters
Russell's Hall Hospital
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2HQ

Ref: FOI-042024-000796

Date: 29/04/2024

Address / Email:

Dear

Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Request

Please could you provide information regarding hospital admissions related to air pollution exposure.

Response

Questions	Responses												
<p>The number of hospital admissions over the last five years including 2024, where possible) where air pollution has contributed to the admission. For example, asthma or COPD induced or worsened by air pollution exposure.</p>	<table border="1" data-bbox="815 1257 1453 1471"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Admissions</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2020</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2023</td> <td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>January 2024</td> <td><5</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>As per NHS Digital rules the Trust does not publish numbers lower than 5 as this could lead to the identification of the persons involved and cause distress to Families or Friends. The number of hospital admissions the years requested is less than 5, so Exemption Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act is applied.</p>	Year	Admissions	2020	12	2021	20	2022	12	2023	18	January 2024	<5
Year	Admissions												
2020	12												
2021	20												
2022	12												
2023	18												
January 2024	<5												
<p>The number of deaths recorded over the last five years (including 2024, where possible) where air pollution is related to the cause of death. For example, when a patient has died as a result of acute or chronic respiratory failure, a severe asthma attack or COPD</p>	<p>We are unable to answer this as we do not hold the information you have requested in a reportable format.</p> <p><i>When information is not in a reportable format</i></p>												

<p>which was worsened by air pollution exposure.</p>	<p><i>The ICO guidance clearly states “FOIA only applies to information that a public authority already holds in recorded form at the time of a request. If you don't hold a particular piece of information that someone has asked for, you don't have to create it”.</i></p>
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If you are dissatisfied with our response, you have the right to appeal in line with guidance from the Information Commissioner. In the first instance you may contact the Information Governance Manager of the Trust.

Information Governance Manager
Trust Headquarters
Russell's Hall Hospital
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2HQ
Email: dgft.dpo@nhs.net

Should you disagree with the contents of our response to your appeal, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioners Office at.

Information Commissioners Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 0303 123 1113
www.ico.org.uk

If you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

**Freedom of Information Team
The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust**