

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

Ref: FOI-022025-0001440

Date: 21.2.25

Address / Email:

Dear

Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000

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

Request

As of 2017, data detailing the number of patients who have died due to problems in care is required to be published by NHS trusts in England. This is set out in this press release: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nhs-becomes-first-healthcare-system-in-the-world-to-publish-numbers-of-avoidable-deaths> and in this reporting guidance: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/patient-safety/patient-safety-insight/learning-from-deaths-in-the-nhs/>.

Under the Freedom of Information Act please could you provide the total number of deaths considered to have been due to problems in care in The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust for the periods:

1. 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020
2. 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021
3. 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022
4. 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023
5. 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

To clarify, this is not a request asking for the total number of deaths but is specifically concerning those which are deemed to be due to problems in care.

Response

1. 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020 - <5
2. 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021 - <5
3. 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022 - 9 cases
4. 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023 - 10 cases
5. 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024 - <5 cases

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.

For years 2019, 2020 and 2024 the number is less than 5, so Exemption Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act is applied.

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