

Date: 04/12/2018

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST FOI/014461 – Deaths of nursing staff

Please answer the following questions under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act.

In 2012, across-government strategy was put together around preventing suicide. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/suicide-prevention-third-annual-report> This report identified that doctors and nurses had a 'particularly high' suicide risk compared to other occupational groups [see page 9]. I am interested only in data relating to nurses/nursing staff. For the purposes of this FOI, I define this to relate to those who hold a registered nursing qualification with the Nursing and Midwifery Council who are on Agenda for Change band 5 or upwards.

- 1) Please state the number of deaths in service [ie: during employment, but not necessarily on the premises or during working hours] of nursing staff employed by your organisation since 2012. - 5
- 2) (i) Please state how many of the total deaths were recorded, known or otherwise suspected to be suicide?
(ii) Please state what the different categories of cause of death were recorded as, for the purposes of the organisation's own reporting and recording. For example; cancer, heart failure, suicide etc.
Information is only recorded on the Electronic Staff Record as 'death in service'
- 3) Please include copies of any 'death inservice' procedure or policy the organisation uses. - No, however, the Trust follows the NHS Pension procedure for individuals who die in service. This is national guidance.
- 4) Please describe if there is any work in progress to address mental health needs or suicide risk among your nursing workforce, or alternatively where there have been suicides whether there have been any changes in workplace practices as a result? -

The Trust has a Staff Health and Wellbeing team to offer staff support including a counselling service, in addition we also offer Rmployee support and also offer a 24/7 telephone counselling service to all our staff via Employee Assistance Program.