

Freedom of Information Act 2000 disclosure log entry

Reference

22-23065

Date response sent

22/07/22

Subject

22-23065 GIDS & GIC: Deaths Whilst Awaiting First appointment

Details of enquiry

Please provide the patients on the waiting list for your trust's Gender Identity Clinic and (where relevant) Gender Identity Development Service who have died whilst waiting for their initial appointment, for the last 5 years.

Please provide this information broken down by year for the following years: 2021/2022, 2020/2021, 2019/2020, 2018/2019, 2017/2018. If this information is not able to be broken down on an annual basis, please provide the aggregate.

The precedence for this can be found in other Freedom of Information Act requests to health trusts, for instance most recently in one made to Belfast Health and Social Care Trust in February of this year, FOI/26432.

Response sent

With regards to patients on the GIC and GIDS waiting list, there is no requirement to notify the Trust of a reason when an individual withdraws from the waiting list, or when their clinician withdraws their referral to the Trust. We therefore do not hold a full set of data.

In addition, the Trust may be retrospectively contacted by coroner courts and we have no control about when that may occur.

The Trust publishes limited information on death data on its website, where it can, and this may be reached via the following the links provided below.

Summaries of serious incidents of this nature can be found in our quarterly board reports, which can be found on this page: <https://tavistockandportman.nhs.uk/about-us/governance/board-of-directors/meetings/> For example on page 37 of the board papers from January

2022: https://tavistockandportman.nhs.uk/documents/2407/Board_papers_-_January_2022.pdf

The Trust has considered the detailed nature of the death data requested, covering deaths for those on waiting lists at both our gender services.

The Trust considers that this level of disclosure, when combined with other information that is or may become available in the public domain, could lead of identification of

individuals and cause distress to the individual, and/or their family, friends and wider community.

The Trust has received updated guidance on the release of data, and now adheres closely to the Common Law Duty of Confidence and the 100-year rule, following guidance from the Office of National Statistics (ONS) on disclosure controls to protect confidentiality within death statistics. This means, going forward, that the Trust will not, in future, break down data around mortality reviews by individual service.

You may be interested to note that where a coroner's inquest is held, linked to a Prevention of future deaths report (Regulation 28 Report to Prevent Future Deaths), the name of the deceased is published by the coroner and placed into the public domain.

In summary: for the reasons given above, we are unable to supply the level of detail for data that you have requested. Past mortality review data is available on our website, as indicated above, and future mortality reviews (that protect patients from identification) will be published in the same location once the data is validated.

I hope that you are satisfied with this response. If you are dissatisfied you can ask us to carry out an internal review of our handling of your request. You can request a review by emailing us at FOI@tavi-port.nhs.uk. Your review will be carried out by a senior officer within the Trust. If you remain dissatisfied following completion of our internal review, you have a right to complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) at <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/official-information-concerns-report/official-information-concern/> or visit <https://ico.org.uk/global/privacy-notice/how-you-can-contact-us/>