

Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-512

Date: 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Tel: 01782 676474  
Email [FOI@uhn.nhs.uk](mailto:FOI@uhn.nhs.uk)

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 25<sup>th</sup> November 2018 (received into our office 26<sup>th</sup> November) requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding autopsies

As of 1<sup>st</sup> November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHNM) manages two hospital sites – Royal Stoke University Hospital, and County Hospital (Stafford). Therefore the response below is for the two sites combined from that date where appropriate.

**Q1 For each of the years 2014, 2015 and 2016 please may you provide?**

**1. The total number of adult (aged 17 and above) deaths within your Trust between 1st January and 31st December**

A1 Please see below; however from the 1st November 2014 University Hospitals of North Staffordshire (UHNS) merged with Mid Staffordshire Foundation NHS Trust (MSFT). Please note therefore this is the reason for the increase in the number of deaths from 2014 to 2015. Also note, we record adults as 18 and over and the figures below reflect this split.

| 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|------|------|------|
| 1975 | 2987 | 3054 |

**Q2 The number of Hospital (consent) autopsies carried out on adult (aged 17 and above) deaths which occurred between 1st January and 31st December**

A2 Please see below: please note the below relates to aged 17+

| Number | Calendar Year | Age at Death |
|--------|---------------|--------------|
| 705    | 2014          | Adult        |
| 866    | 2015          | Adult        |
| 837    | 2016          | Adult        |

**Q3 The total number of paediatric (aged 16 and below) deaths within your Trust between 1st January and 31st December.**

A3 Please see below; however from the 1st November 2014 University Hospitals of North Staffordshire (UHNS) merged with Mid Staffordshire Foundation NHS Trust (MSFT). Please note that we record paediatrics as 17 and under and the figures below reflect this split

| 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|------|------|------|
| 58   | 60   | 44   |

**Q4 The number of Hospital (consent) autopsies carried out on paediatric (aged 16 and below) deaths which occurred between 1st January and 31st December.**

A4 Please see below:

| Number | Calendar Year | Age at Death      |
|--------|---------------|-------------------|
| 1      | 2015          | aged 16 and below |
| 6      | 2016          | aged 16 and below |
| 1      | 2017          | aged 16 and below |

\*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

***UHNM NHS Trust is a public sector body and governed by EU law. FOI requestors should note that any new Trust requirements over the EU threshold will be subject to these regulations and will be advertised for open competition accordingly.***

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An anonymised copy of this request can be found on the Trust's disclosure log, please note that all requests can be found at the following link: <http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/aboutus/Statutory-Policies-and-Procedures/Pages/Freedom-of-Information-Disclosure-Log.aspx>

This letter confirms the completion of this request. A log of this request and a copy of this letter will be held by the Trust.

If you have any queries related to the response provided please in the first instance contact my office.


Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and request an assessment of the manner in which the Trust has managed your request.

The Information Commissioner may be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF or via [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk).

If following review of the responses I can be of any further assistance please contact my secretary on 01782 676474.

Yours,



Leah Carlisle  
**Deputy Head of Quality, Safety & Compliance**