

FOI REF: 21/006

29<sup>th</sup> January 2021

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## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

I am responding to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. The answers to your specific questions are as follows:

**How many people have died in your hospitals from Covid 19 alone? As in they died only due to Covid 19. I can see the figures that you publish online, but these are deaths within 28 days of a positive covid test, so they could have died from other causes. I just want to know the exact figure from 1st February 2020 until the 20th December of people that have died due to Covid-19 and not anything else please.**

As we are sure you will appreciate, the Trust is facing an unprecedented challenge in managing the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Our teams do not therefore have the capacity to respond to your freedom of information request during this extraordinary period and we apologise that we will not be able to respond.

However, the Trust is counting COVID-19 deaths as per the national guidance. The figure and a description of the definition we are using, is published daily and can be found via the link below:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/covid-19-daily-deaths/>

The link to the Trust level data is available in the daily spreadsheet in the section titled 'COVID-19 all announced deaths'.

If you would still like the information please resubmit your request at the beginning of April.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Should you be dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your request, please write to Lynette Wells, Director of Corporate Affairs, East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust ([lynette.wells2@nhs.net](mailto:lynette.wells2@nhs.net)) quoting the above reference.

Yours sincerely

Linda Thornhill (Mrs)  
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