



FOI REF: 21/170

12th May 2021

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:

I would like to request the figures for all Covid-19, cancer only & suicide only death's since the 1st of March 2020 until the present day which will obviously be as & when you are able to collate those figures for me please?

Covid-19 Deaths

The total number of Covid-19 deaths, within East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust, from 1st January 2020 to 31st December 2020 is 276.

Cancer Only Deaths

We are unable to provide specific data on "Cancer Deaths" because (a) not all Cancer patients under our care who die will die in hospital, we therefore are unable to quantify absolute numbers as patients may die at home, in Hospices or in tertiary centres. (b) It is further complicated as a Cancer patient who dies may not have died as a result of their Cancer diagnosis, we therefore will have no definitive record of their death in relation to their Cancer.

Suicide Only Deaths

Any deaths from suicide or self-harm falls under the jurisdiction of HM Coroner and therefore all information belong to the Coroner's office.

The Coroner does not give his permission for the Trust to share information in relation to deceased persons where the death has been reported to the Coroner's Office. Coroner's Offices are not subject to the Freedom of Information Act therefore we are unable to provide you with a response to this part of your request.

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) quoting the above reference.

Yours sincerely

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Corporate Governance Manager
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