

FOI REF: 21/173

Tel: 0300 131 4500  
Website: [www.esht.nhs.uk](http://www.esht.nhs.uk)

4<sup>th</sup> 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:

- 1. The number of probable healthcare associated covid 19 infection deaths at hospitals within the trust since the start of the pandemic. (We understand a probable test relates to a positive covid test 8-14 days after admission.)**

This information is not currently available as we are in the process of undertaking a review of hospital deaths and where HCAI probable/definitive covid was recorded on part 1 of the death certificate.

We are therefore applying a section 22 exemption to this part of your request, as the data is intended for future publication.

In applying the exemption consideration has been given to the public interest in enabling scrutiny of public sector decision making and the general public interest in accountability and transparency.

In this instance, we consider that the public interest in withholding the information is greater than the public interest in disclosing the information.

- 2. The number of definite healthcare associated covid 19 infection deaths at hospitals in the trust since the start of the pandemic. (We understand a definite test relates to a positive covid test 15 days after admission.)**

Section 22 applied, please see above.

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

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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

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