

FOI REF: 21/278

2nd July 2021

Tel: 0300 131 4500
Website: www.esht.nhs.uk

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:

- The number of patients that presented to Accident & Emergency/the Emergency Department due to feeling suicidal from 01/01/16 to 31/12/20. Data given separately for each calendar year 2016-2020.**

Please see the table below for the number of patients that presented to Accident & Emergency/the Emergency Department due to feeling suicidal from 1st January 2016 to 31st December 2020. Data given separately for each calendar year 2016-2020

Calendar Year	Number of Patients
2016	4,757
2017	5,289
2018	5,502
2019	6,207
2020	6,406
Total	28,161

- 2. The number of patients from point 1 who were discharged home without being seen by psychiatry, and the number of patients from point 1 who were discharged home without being referred to another service. Data given separately for each calendar year 2016-2020.**

The Trust does not centrally record the number of patients seen by psychiatry. To enable the Trust to provide this information would require a manual review of patients' notes.

Section 12(1) of the Act allows a public authority to refuse to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of compliance would exceed the 'appropriate limit', as defined by the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 (the Regulations). These state that this cost limit is £450 for public authorities which are not part of central government or the armed forces. The costs are calculated at £25 per hour per person regardless of the rate of pay, which means that the limit will be exceeded if the work involved would exceed 18 hours. The Trust estimates that the cost of complying with this request would significantly exceed the above limit.

Please note that all patient outcomes are notified to the patients GP to follow up if required. This is standard practice across the UK

- 3. The number of patients from point 1 who committed suicide within 28 days of being discharged from A&E, for each year since 2016. Data given separately for each calendar year 2016-2020.**

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 the Freedom of Information Department (esh-tr.foi@nhs.net), quoting the above reference.

Yours sincerely

Linda Thornhill (Mrs)
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