

FOI REF: 23/023

21st February 2023

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:

This is a request of multiple parts. Please treat each part as a separate request.

Please provide me with the following information from your trust. In all references to years I am asking for the information from the entire calendar year (January to December inclusive).

- 1. The total number of deaths considered more likely than not to have occurred due to problems in care in the trust for each quarter for which records are available**

[Learning from deaths report - deaths with avoidability rating over 50% April 2017 to March 2022 includes learning disability deaths.](#)

	Qtr1	Qtr2	Qtr3	Qtr4
2017/2018	1	2	4	1
2018/2019	1	1	0	1
2019/2020	1	1	1	1
2020/2021	1	0	1	1
2021/2022	0	1	0	2

- 2. The highest number of days of delayed discharge in your trust in of 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022**

[Please see attached document.](#)

3. **The longest waiting time recorded in 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 for a patient to receive the result of each of the following diagnostic tests:**

**Magnetic Resonance Imaging test (MRI)
Echocardiogram
Non-obstetric ultrasound**

The Trust holds the information you have requested regarding the longest wait time for Echocardiograms, but it is not in the format that you have requested and, in order to provide the information, it would require a manual review of the records and it is estimated that this would take longer than 18 hours.

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. We are therefore applying Section 12(1) to this part of your request.

Please see the table below for the waiting times in days recorded for MRI and Non - obstetric ultrasound (NOUS):

	MRI	NOUS
2018	49	43
2019	53	46
2020	88	54
2021	75	54
2022	63	63

4. **The longest period of time that a patient spent on a waiting list for a non urgent operation in 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022. For each year, please also include, if possible, which category of operation is concerned.**

Please see attached document.

5. **The numbers of patients removed from outpatient or elective care waiting lists with a removal reason of death, for 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022.**

Please see attached document.

In part 1, if these numbers are only available for patients who have not been identified as having learning disabilities, that is acceptable. The request is based on this announcement by the Department of Health and Social Care, and the 'Learning from Deaths Dashboard' template announced by NHS England.

In part 4, I recognise that it is not possible to determine the cause of death of the patient. That is not what I am requesting.

For all parts of this request, if the data to the end of 2022 is not available, then please include as much of the year as possible.

If the trust experienced any merger in the timeframes required, please include if possible the results for the separate defunct trusts before the merger, and then the results for the new trust.

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, you have the right to request an internal review. Please write to the Freedom of Information Department (esh-tr.foi@nhs.net), quoting the above reference, within 40 working days. The Trust is not obliged to accept an internal review after this date.

Should you still be dissatisfied with your FOI request, you have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner at the following address:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely

Linda Thornhill (Mrs)
Corporate Governance Manager
esh-tr.foi@nhs.net

FOI 23/023 Deaths and Waits

Question 2 - The highest number of days of delayed discharge in your trust in of 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022

Year	Days Wait	Reason	Description	Delay - NHS/SS
2018 December	31	G I	Acute - Patient or family choice Non Acute - Housing - patients not covered by NHS and Community Care Act	NHS NHS
2019 January	31	C A C G	Acute - Further non acute NHS care (including intermediate care, rehabilitation etc) Non Acute - Completion of assessment Non Acute - Further non acute NHS care (including intermediate care, rehabilitation etc) Non Acute - Patient or family choice	NHS NHS NHS NHS
2019 July	31	Dii E	Acute - Care Home placement ii) Nursing Home (2 patients) Acute - Care package in own home (2 patients)	SS/NHS Both NHS
2020 January	31	Dii Dii	Acute - Care Home placement ii) Nursing Home Non Acute - Care Home placement ii) Nursing Home	NHS NHS

2020 - Only covers the first three months. From April 2020 we stopped submitting the return and have no data from this month

Question 4 - The longest period of time that a patient spent on a waiting list for a non urgent operation in 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022. For each year, please also include, if possible, which category of operation is concerned.

Year	Wait in Days	Adm Method	Procedure
2018	2008 582	All excl Planned	DIAGNOSTIC ENDOSCOPIC EXAMINATION OF COLON TYMPANOPLASTY USING GRAFT
2019	1987 510	All excl Planned	DIAGNOSTIC ENDOSCOPIC EXAMINATION OF COLON CORONARY ARTERIOGRAPHY USING TWO CATHETERS
2020	1875 531	All excl Planned	ENDOSCOPIC EXAMINATION OF COLON AND BIOPSY OF LESION OF COLON PRIMARY TOTAL PROSTHETIC REPLACEMENT OF KNEE JOINT USING CEMENT
2021	2279 704	All excl Planned	ENDOSCOPIC MUCOSAL RESECTION OF LESION OF COLON EXCISION OF PREAURICULAR ABNORMALITY
2022	2040 740	All excl Planned	ENDOSCOPIC SNARE RESECTION OF LESION OF COLON REVISION OF MASTOIDECTOMY

Admission Method - All include both Elective & Planned Admissions - excl Planned excludes all Planned Admissions

Question 5 - The numbers of patients removed from outpatient or elective care waiting lists with a removal reason of death, for 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022.

Inpatient Waiting List

Year	Patients Removed	WL Removal Date = Calendar Year
2018	489	
2019	478	WL Removal Reason - Patient 'Died'
2020	593	
2021	677	
2022	644	

Outpatient Waiting List

Year	Patients Removed	OPWLDATEREMOVED - Calendar Year
2018	1,360	
2019	2,033	
2020	2,388	Date of Deathnon PMI - Calendar Year
2021	2,478	
2022	2,507	OPWLSTAT - 'C' Cancelled