

Freedom of Information Act Disclosure log - Reply Extract

File reference	W20FOI353
Key words	Covid-19 Deaths, Flu Vaccinations, ICU Beds and Capacity
Date of release	04/01/2021
Attachments	No

You asked

- 1. The actual number of deaths within the Trust due to Covid-19 for both staff members and patients in the care of the Trust, between the period of February 2020 to 1st December 2020?**

The numbers of Covid-19 deaths are recorded on the NHS England website at: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/> reference tab 4 and RK9 for University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust.

No staff have died due to Covid-19.

- 2. a. From those deaths how many had underlying health conditions? Out of those with underlying health conditions,**

We hold the information requested, but are unable to provide this. The number of patients that did not have an underlying health condition is five or fewer – see legal note below - and this information may be revealed if the Trust were to disclose the figures for those who have died with underlying health conditions.

- b. how many had Covid-19 registered as their cause of death on their death certificate?**

The Trust does not hold the information requested. The Trust has spoken to the local Registry Office and they also confirmed they also cannot provide the information requested, but have however suggested we signpost you to the Office for National Statistics at: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/aboutus/contactus>, they that may be able to assist you.

- 3. How many people who died due to Covid-19 had received a Flu vaccination or mist within 6 months prior to their death?**

The Trust does not hold the information requested.

- 4. Please can you also confirm the total number of beds in the trust as well as the ICU bed capacity within the trust and if at any time this capacity was exceeded within the University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust during this same time period?**

The number of beds available is not static. The Trust is required to submit its bed occupancy via the KH03 return. This can be accessed here:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/bed-availability-and-occupancy/>. This provides the general and acute bed numbers (as reported in the Sitrep dataset).

5. Please can you confirm the bed capacity in covid specific wards which have been reserved and or occupied for the sole purpose of Covid-19 patients?

There is no set number of beds. Bed need is assessed daily and then capacity flexed to respond to the demand.

Legal notes

University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust is confirming in accordance with section 1 (a) of the Act that it holds the information requested and is supplying it in accordance with section 1(b) unless otherwise specified.

With regard to question 2, we regret to inform you that University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust takes the view that this information is exempt from disclosure in accordance with section 41(1)(a) and (b) of the 2000 Act. The reason we take this view is because the number is low and therefore the public could with this, and any other publicly available information identifies the deceased or other living persons identifiable through association. The Trust believes that the information it obtains carries a duty of inferred confidence and that the release of such information would breach that trust. This duty continues regardless of whether they are alive or deceased and extends in the protection of their families from inappropriate intrusion. A Public Interest Test and review of Information Commissioner Guidance supported the proposed position.

Attachments included: No