



Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

Trust Headquarters
Chief Nurse

Royal Albert Edward Infirmary
Wigan Lane
Wigan
WN1 2NN

T: 01942 773291

E: kevin.parker-evans@wwl.nhs.uk

Ref: FOI/2025/10558

Date Received: 26th February 2025

Response Due: 26th March 2025

Date: 26th March 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 26th February 2025, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding your compliance with the Learning from Deaths Guidance issued by NHS England (2017) which ensures your trust complies with the National Health Service (Quality Accounts) (Amendment) Regulations 2017.

This requires every NHS Trust to annually report (with a quarterly breakdown) the number of patients who died during the reporting period, how many case record reviews or investigations took place, and estimate how many deaths were determined to be likely due to problems in the care provided. It also requires the reporting of a summary of lessons learnt, what actions have been taken as a result, and what the impact of these actions has been.

Included in the Quality Accounts should also be the number of case record reviews and investigations relating to deaths in the previous reporting period that were only concluded in the most recent period and an estimation of how many of those deaths were due to problems in the care provided.

Please provide answers to the following questions for the most recent reporting period (2023/24):

I. Policy and Governance

- a. **Does your trust currently comply with the requirements of the Learning from Deaths Guidance'?**

Yes.

b. **If not do you have plans to comply with it and if so by when?**

N/A.

2. Reporting

a. **How many deaths were reported within your trust during the reporting period (2023/24)?**

1,382.

b. **How many of these deaths were reviewed, and how many were judged more likely than not to have been avoidable?**

698 cases were reviewed, 0.5% were judged to be more likely than not to have been avoidable.

c. **Have you published quarterly reports on learning from deaths on your website, as required by the guidance? Please provide links to the most recent reports.**

Reports are received by the Quality and Safety Committee on a quarterly basis and a summary of this meeting is shared with the Board of Directors, which complies with the guidance.

d. **Is information on learning from deaths included in your latest Quality Account?**

Yes.

3. Family Involvement

a. **Are families and carers involved in the review process where appropriate?**

No.

b. **Please provide the number of deaths that were reviewed in this period (2023/24) where families and carers were involved and engaged in the review.**

None.


4. Actions and Learning

a. **Please provide a summary of all actions taken as a result of the learning from deaths process in the last reporting period.**

The Trust is unable to provide this data as it is not recorded centrally, if recorded it would be held within individual case notes and the case files of the 0.5% reviewed deaths which were judged to be more likely than not to have been avoidable. We do not request staff to interrogate case notes in order to collate the information required to respond to Freedom of Information requests.

If you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department via the email address provided. If we do not hear from you within 40 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,



KEVIN PARKER-EVANS

Kevin Parker-Evans MBA, FCSI, CMgr, RN Dip HE

Chief Nursing Officer & Director of Infection Prevention and Control

PLEASE NOTE:

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Suite 9, Buckingham Row, Brick Kiln Lane, Wigan, WN1 1XX.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at:

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

Helpline number: 0303 123 111