

Information Governance

Wrightington Hospital
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WN6 9EP

Tel: 01257 488271
Email: FOI@wwl.nhs.uk
Web: www.wwl.nhs.uk

Ref: FOI2017/4370

Date Received: 12th December 2017
Response Due: 12th January 2018

9th January 2018

Dear

INFORMATION REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

We are now pleased to respond to your request for information under the FOI Act.

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information from your hospital mortuary(s):

- 1) Please could you provide me with a list of bodies that have been stored for over 28 days at hospital mortuary, broken down by gender, date admitted, time stored for, and if released, the date of release. Please could you limit the search to the past 36 months. Please could you provide the information in excel or csv format.*

Attached are the dates as requested for the patients who remained in our mortuary over 28 days I have selected a 36 month period dated from 20/11/2014 to 19/12.2017. There were a total of 34 deceased patients 22 males and 12 females.

- 2) Whether you expecting any mortuary capacity issues due to cold weather this winter, and what your plans to deal with capacity issues are (if you have plans)?*

We have escalation plans in place to address this issue. We have additional storage facilities at Leigh Infirmary and also hire a temporary body chiller which is also located at the Leigh site.

- 3) Can you estimate what percentage of cases are referred for a social funeral?*

Less than 1% of deaths are referred for a social funeral in a period of 12 months.

4) *Could you let me know whether rising funeral costs are responsible for delays in bodies being released?*

We do not have information available to answer this question.

I trust that this information is helpful to you, however if you are not entirely satisfied with this response please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department on 01257 488271. If we do not hear from you within 28 days we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Foster', written in a cursive style.

Andrew Foster
Chief Executive

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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, Wrightington Hospital, Hall Lane, Appley Bridge, Wigan, WN6 9EP

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF