

Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance Department

Suite 9
Buckingham Row
Brick Kiln Lane
Wigan
WN1 1XX

Email: foi@wwl.nhs.uk
Web: www.wwl.nhs.uk

Ref: FOI/2025/10681

Date Received: 16th April 2025

Response Due: 19th May 2025

Date: 2nd May 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 16th April 2025, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do not hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

I would like to submit a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) regarding cases of food poisoning due to incorrect identification or inappropriate preparation of wild food.

Please provide the relevant information for the period between 1 April 2020 and the most recent date for which data is available.

Please could you provide the following:

a. A yearly breakdown of the number of cases of food poisoning due to incorrect identification or inappropriate preparation of wild food.

The Trust is unable to provide this information as we have no way of identifying whether the patients coded with food poisoning became ill due to incorrect identification or inappropriate preparation of wild food. The Trust would also not be able to identify the type of food, the symptoms experienced or the location of where the food was picked.

Therefore, The Trust is unable to provide this data as it is not recorded centrally, if recorded it would be held within individual case notes. As case notes are for the care and treatment of patients, we do not request staff to interrogate them in order to collate the information required to respond to Freedom of Information requests.

b. The type of wild food that caused the food poisoning (for example: fungi, plant, berries, etc...). Please include the specific species if known.

Please see the above response.

- c. **The symptoms experienced by the patient and the recovery time (for example: overnight stay or discharged within a couple hours)**

Please see the above response.

- d. **The location where this food was picked.**

Please see the above response.

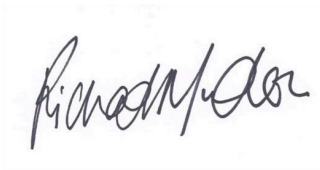
We would define 'wild or foraged' foods to be either:

- **Wild, naturally growing food which was picked and consumed by an individual**
- **Wild, naturally growing food which was consumed by an individual, but was served in a restaurant environment, having been picked in the wild within the UK.**

If you need to carry out a key terms search to locate these records, please include the terms "foraged", "foraging", "wild food", "forager", "wild ingredients". If you would document these cases in another way, please include these results as per the spirit of my request.

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,



Richard Mundon
Deputy Chief Executive

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