



Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-753

**Royal Stoke University Hospital**  
**Quality, Safety and Compliance Department**  
Newcastle Road  
Stoke-on-Trent  
Staffordshire  
ST4 6QG

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Email [foi@uhn.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@uhn.nhs.uk)

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding patient falls in and NHS hospital setting.

As of 1<sup>st</sup> November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHNM) manages two hospital sites – Royal Stoke University Hospital, and County Hospital (Stafford). Therefore the response below is for the two sites combined from that date where appropriate.

**Q1 Background:**

**An officer at NHS Improvement told me that: “NHS Foundation Trusts should have details on (patient) falls in their organisations.”**

**He also said that Trusts/Boards would also record the severity of the fall.**

**FOI request:**

**Could you please provide me with the following information?**

**1. The number of patient falls which have occurred in NHS hospitals within University Hospitals of North Midlands for the years: 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018.**

A1 Please see below: Information prior to 2015 is not held.

	Royal Stoke	County
2015	2056	319
2016	2199	425
2017	2028	474
2018	2094	489

**Q2 A breakdown of the number of these falls per hospital, by the years above.  
a. A breakdown of the severity of these falls (e.g. low, medium, high)**

A2 Please see below: Information prior to 2015 is not held.

Royal Stoke					
	No Harm / Near Miss	Low	Moderate	Severe	Death
2015	1483	456	103	13	1



2016	1606	495	82	15	1
2017	1250	701	68	6	3
2018	1376	663	33	22	0

County					
	No Harm / Near Miss	Low	Moderate	Severe	Death
2015	218	82	17	2	0
2016	325	83	14	3	0
2017	267	186	19	2	0
2018	298	163	22	6	0

**Q3 The number of patients who were never discharged after their fall - i.e. died before discharge.**

**a. Could you break this down both by the years above, and by the hospital where they had the fall?**

A3 Please see below: Information prior to 2015 is not held.

	Royal Stoke	County
2015	113	10
2016	124	28
2017	146	49
2018	178	40

Please note that the above is for total number of patients recorded as having a fall and died before discharge (not died as result of the fall).

\*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

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This letter confirms the completion of this request. A log of this request and a copy of this letter will be held by the Trust.

If you have any queries related to the response provided please in the first instance contact my office.


Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and request an assessment of the manner in which the Trust has managed your request.

The Information Commissioner may be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF or via [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk).

If following review of the responses I can be of any further assistance please contact my secretary on 01782 676474.

Yours,



Leah Carlisle  
**Deputy Head of Quality, Safety & Compliance**