



Ref: FOIA Reference 2021/22-277

Royal Stoke University Hospital  
Data, Security and Protection  
Newcastle Road  
Stoke-on-Trent  
Staffordshire  
ST4 6QG

Date: 9<sup>th</sup> September 2021

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

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 18th August 2021 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding funerals.

On 20<sup>th</sup> August 2021 you contacted us via email with the following:

*'Thanks and apologies if any confusion caused by me failing to have changed the word 'council' to 'NHS Trust'. I've written to both councils and hospital trusts because they both carry out these types of funerals. So to clarify, I am writing to ask your NHS Trust for this information.*

*a) Should read:*

*How many public health funerals has your NHS Trust carried out each year for these financial years (April 1st - March 31st): 2019/2020 & 2020/2021? Please give figures relating to the date of funeral, rather than death if possible. Please DO NOT include still births.*

*If your Trust does not carry welfare funerals (some trusts do not) then please reply telling me this.*

*Also please amend the dates on the spread sheet to correspond with the above or use this spread sheet instead'.*

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 If your NHS Trust organises and carries out public health funerals for people who die in the Trust's care and who don't have the financial means or family/friends to arrange it please can you answer the following? (Please see the attached spread sheet I have put together to help you collate the data):**

- a) How many public health funerals has your council carried out each year for these financial years (April 1st - March 31st): 2019/2020 & 2020/2021? Please give figures relating to the date of funeral, rather than death if possible. Please DO NOT include still births.**

**Amended:**

- a) How many public health funerals has your NHS Trust carried out each year for these financial years (April 1st - March 31st): 2019/2020 & 2020/2021? Please give figures relating to the date of funeral, rather than death if possible. Please DO NOT include still births.**

- b) Please state, out of the above figures, how many of those people were male and how many of those men had next of kin and how many of those men did not have next of kin?
- c) Please state, out of the above figures, how many of those people were female and how many of those women had next of kin and how many of those women did not have next of kin?
- d) Please state, out of the above figures, how many of those people were aged under 18, aged 18-59 or aged 60+
- e) Please state, out of the above figures, how many of those people were cremated, how many were buried in a grave of their own and how many were buried in a shared or communal grave (if that's applicable).

A1 Please refer to the attached amended spread sheet that you supplied.

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

***UHNM NHS Trust is a public sector body and governed by EU law. FOI requestors should note that any new Trust requirements over the EU threshold will be subject to these regulations and will be advertised for open competition accordingly.***

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An anonymised copy of this request can be found on the Trust's disclosure log, please note that all requests can be found at the following link: <http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/aboutus/Statutory-Policies-and-Procedures/Pages/Freedom-of-Information-Disclosure-Log.aspx>

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.

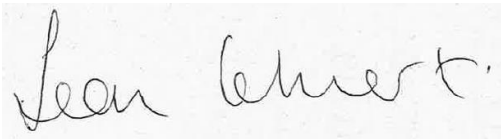
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and 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 671612.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature reads "Jean Lehnert" in a cursive script.

Jean Lehnert  
**Data, Security & Protection Manager**