

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: UHB 20-248

29 May 2020

By Email

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trust's response is as follows:

Request:

I am Treasurer for Weston Golf Club just along the road and although you have more important issues to deal with in this crisis, we would appreciate your help in due course. Basically, the golf club is in a perilous position due to the Covid 19 outbreak and we have put in a claim to our insurers as we have business interruption insurance. As is usual, the loss adjusters have denied the claim as we have no proof that someone died before 23rd March within one mile of the premises. There was an announcement on 24th March of a person dying from Covid 19 at the hospital which we have forwarded to our insurers but they still require the date of death. Due to us not knowing who it is etc etc we are unable to prove our claim, which is literally the lifeblood of the club. My request is whether you can confirm that someone died at the hospital of Covid 19 on such and such a date. No details so not breaching privacy laws etc, just the date and what they died of??

Response:

From the information held at Weston Area Health Trust, we confirm that there were Covid 19 related deaths in Weston Hospital before 23 March 2020.

The Trust will not reveal the exact number of those deaths nor the exact date they occurred to avoid any individuals being identified from the information provided, when considered with other information that may also be in the public domain. In our view disclosure of such information especially in this case where the numbers are low, would breach one of the Data

Protection Principles set out in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act, namely Principle 1, therefore find that the Section 40(2) exemption contained within the Freedom of information Act 2000 is engaged. Section 40 is the exemption for personal information.

We trust though that our response will still be able to assist you with your claim.

This concludes our response. We trust that you find this helpful, but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if we can be of any further assistance.

If, after that, you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Director of Corporate Governance
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust
Trust Headquarters
Marlborough Street
Bristol
BS1 3NU

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Publication

Please note that this letter and the information included/attached will be published on our website as part of the Trust's Freedom of Information Publication Log. This is because information disclosed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act is disclosed to the public, not just to the individual making the request. We will remove any personal information (such as your name, email and so on) from any information we make public to protect your personal information.

To view the Freedom of Information Act in full please click [here](#).

Yours sincerely

FOI Team
UH Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust