

**Freedom of Information Request**

**Ref: 24-867**

5 December 2024

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:

- We can confirm that we do hold the information you are requesting

**Please could you provide the following information:**

- **For the financial years 19/20, 20/21, 21/22, 22/23, 23/24 and 24/25, please could you detail the number of significant events and never events that were recorded across your NHS Trust? For clarity, we are using the definitions of 'significant' and 'never' events as published by NHS England. Please provide a breakdown of the number of recorded events for each category.**

We are able to obtain this information however we have decided to apply **Section 21** of the FOIA as this information is reasonably accessible in the public domain on the Trust's website under the following links:

**2019/2020:**

[Quality Account](#)

[waht quality account 2019-2020 for board jan 21.pdf](#)

**2020/2021:**

[Quality Account](#)

**2021/2022:**

[Quality Account](#)

**2022/2023:**

[Quality Account](#)

Section 21 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to provide the requested information if it is already reasonably accessible and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

## 2023/2024:

Please note that from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023 we no longer used the Serious Incident Framework and joined the NHS England Patient Safety Incident Response Framework. Following this transition we no longer declare serious incidents but we continue to declare Never Events as per the national framework. Please see the data below.

Serious Incident Category April - July 2023	Number of incidents
Accident e.g. collision/scald (not slip/trip/fall) meeting SI criteria	*
Diagnostic incident including delay meeting SI criteria (including failure to act on test results)	*
HCAI/Infection control incident meeting SI criteria	*
Maternity/Obstetric incident meeting SI criteria: mother only	*
Medication incident meeting SI criteria	*
Operation/treatment given without valid consent	*
Pressure ulcer meeting SI criteria	*
Treatment delay meeting SI criteria	8

July 2023/ March 2024 Never Events	Number of incidents
Wrong site surgery	*
Retained foreign object post procedure	*

## 2024/2025:

Never Events 2024/25 to date	Number of incidents
Never event -Wrong site surgery/	*
Never Event - Retained foreign object post procedure	*

Please note: Where the figures are between 1 and 5, this has been denoted by \*. Due to the low numbers, we have considered that there is the potential for individuals to be identified from the information provided, when considered with other information that may also be in the public domain. In our view disclosure of these low figures would breach one of the Data Protection Principles set out in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act, namely Principle 1. The Trust therefore finds that the Section 40(2) exemption contained within the Freedom of information Act 2000 is engaged. This follows NHS Digital (formerly HSCIC) analysis guidance (2014) which states that small numbers within local authorities, wards, postcode districts, providers and Trusts may allow identification of patients and should not be published.

• **For each financial year, please also provide a breakdown of the number of 'significant' and 'never' events which involved a physician/anaesthesia associate.**

Zero. To date we have had no significant incidents that have involved directly or indirectly a physician/anaesthesia associate. This includes all incident reviews undertaken since moving to PSIRF.

- **For each financial year, please detail the number of doctors, nurses and physician/anaesthesia associates employed at your trust.**

	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025 (YTD)
Anaesthesia Associate	0	0	0	0	1	1
Physician Associate	0	0	9	12	17	17
Medical and Dental	1,622	1,672	1,710	1,766	1,844	1,844
Nursing and Midwifery Registered	3,394	3,478	3,548	3,689	4,123	4,153

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:

Data Protection Officer  
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

**Freedom of Information Team**  
**University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust**