

FOI 0131 2022 Request

Dear Trust Freedom of Information lead,

Subject: *Freedom of Information request: suicide prevention in mental health inpatient wards*

Thank you for processing this freedom of information request, which is being sent to all 50 mental health NHS trusts in England and Wales.

The information we are seeking will inform a national study into the effectiveness of alarmed doors and anti-ligature products in **reducing suicide rates on UK mental health inpatient wards**. The results of the study will be of great value to NHS trusts and health boards in their decision-making around the procurement of these products, taking into account the substantial costs.

To provide relevant estimates, we are relying on completeness of data provided by NHS trusts.

On study completion (write-up to be completed by September 2023) the authors will disseminate the findings to all Trusts and health boards providing data, as well as to central and local stakeholders.

Note: Please do not provide any patient identifying information or any Trust patient ID number.

[†] in this study we are defining suicide as *a death recorded on incident reporting system and submitted to the National Learning and Reporting system as suicide*

^{††} including patients in a neighbouring acute trust whose care was transferred to the care of your Trust's liaison team following an incident that occurred on their trust's inpatient ward.

	Question	Tax year 2018/19	Tax year 2019/20	Tax year 2020/21
1	What was the total combined confirmed number of annual deaths by suicide [†] that occurred while the patient was under the care of mental health services (any age) and learning disabilities' inpatient services ^{††} ?	1	0	3
2	Of the number of deaths by suicide [†] enumerated above (for question 1), what was the total combined confirmed number of annual deaths by suicide that occurred within a ward where an anti-ligature alarmed door was installed?	0	0	0
3	Of the number of deaths by suicide [†] (confirmed by coroner) enumerated above (for question 2), how many deaths involved using an anti-ligature alarmed door as a fixed point for a ligature?	0	0	0
4	<p>What was the total combined number of bed days for patients (of any age) treated within your mental health and learning disabilities' inpatient services^{††}?</p> <p>***Clarification on bed days: An NHS unit used to quantify the availability and use of beds over time, such that bed counts are expressed as a number of 'bed days'.</p> <p>So say in Feb (28 days), you had 14 beds on a ward but one bed was closed for 5 days for maintenance, you'd have 387 bed days. $14 \times 28 = 392$ -5 days a bed was closed, 387.</p>	255,687	256,471	249,328
5	What was the total number of inpatient wards within your mental health and learning disabilities' inpatient services ^{††} ?	53	53	53

6	<p>What was the total combined number of anti-ligature alarmed doors installed within your mental health (all ages) and learning disabilities' inpatient services^{††}?</p>	<p>Please note the Trust is unable to provide the data per financial year from 2018-2021.</p> <p>This because the data has not been captured within our system in the requested format.</p> <p>The Trust can confirm that total number of anti-ligature alarmed doors installed is 246 (covering 2018/2019, 2019/2020 and 2021/2022 financial years)</p>
7	<p>What was the cost of installing anti-ligature alarmed doors (inclusive of all associated costs with installation) within your mental health (all ages) and learning disabilities' inpatient services^{††}? If costs for this occurred prior to the tax year 2018/19 please enter them in the box for the tax year 2018/19 and state which year they were incurred.</p>	<p>The Trust is unable to provide a response to this query.</p> <p>This is because providing the requested data along with the number of anti-ligature alarmed doors may seriously prejudice the interests of the incumbent supplier and any third parties that may wish to bid to supply this service in the future.</p>
8	<p>What was the total amount of money spent on anti-ligature products/works within your NHS trust? If costs for this occurred prior to the tax year 2018/19 please enter them in the box for the tax year 2018/19 and state which year they were incurred.</p>	<p>The Trust is unable to provide a response to this query.</p> <p>This is because providing the requested data along with the number of anti-ligature alarmed doors may seriously prejudice the interests of the incumbent supplier and any third parties that may wish to bid to supply</p>