

**Reference Number:** FOIAH2324/330  
**From:** Press/Media  
**Date:** 18 September 2023  
**Subject:** Number of Patient Safety Incidents that resulted in a Severe or Death degree of harm to the patients from 2010 to present

Q1 Can I request the number of patient safety incidents that resulted in a severe or death degree of harm to the patients (as defined by NHS England [here](#)) and what month and year they took place from 2010 to present please.

Can I also have these as two separate figures - one for severe and one for death - and a figure of how many deaths there were in total as an incident can refer to more than one death.

A1 Information not held - data previous to 1<sup>st</sup> March 2012 unavailable, as this was when the Trust's reporting system was implemented.

Year	Number of patient safety incidents reported as Severe harm
2012	Zero
2013	Information exempted under Section 40: Personal data. Providing this information would likely identify individuals involved.
2014	9
2015	Information exempted under Section 40: Personal data. Providing this information would likely identify individuals involved.
2016	
2017	
2018	
2019	
2020	
2021	
2022	
2023	

Year	Number of patient safety incidents reported as Catastrophic/Death
2012	Information exempted under Section 40: Personal data. Providing this information would likely identify individuals involved.
2013	Zero
2014	Information exempted under Section 40: Personal data. Providing this information would likely identify individuals involved.
2015	
2016	
2017	
2018	Zero
2019	Information exempted under Section 40: Personal data. Providing this information would likely identify individuals involved.
2020	Zero
2021	Zero
2022	Zero

2023	Information exempted under Section 40: Personal data. Providing this information would likely identify individuals involved.
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The Trust is unable to respond to all or specific elements of your request where the response would indicate five or less individuals. The Trust is withholding this information under Section 40 (Personal Information) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000 to reduce the risk of any individuals being identified. The Trust is of the view that disclosure of such information would significantly increase the risk of individuals being identified and as such would constitute a breach of their personal data.

The Trust has applied exemption Section 40(2) of the FOIA and is therefore withholding the information as disclosure which may identify an individual would breach their rights under the Data Protection Act 2018. The grounds for application of this exemption include:

- Any data relating to patients or staff is third party data, furthermore health data is classified as sensitive personal data within the Data Protection Act 2018. As such, Section 40 (2) of the FOIA applies along with the Trusts duty of confidentiality. Therefore under s.2 (3) (f) (ii) of the FOIA, there is an absolute exemption from disclosure on the grounds that it would contravene the First Data Protection Principle.
- The Trust has a duty under the Data Protection Act 2018 and specifically the First Data Protection Principle to ensure personal data regarding staff and patients is processed fairly and lawfully. Disclosure of such data which may identify an individual, either through the data alone or other data in conjunction with that data which may identify an individual would therefore breach this principle.

The Data Protection Act 2018 defines sensitive personal data to include data relating to the "physical or mental health or condition" of a person. Any such information about specific individuals falls within this category and disclosure of such data including statistical data, with any potential likelihood of identification would breach the Data Protection Act 2018