

Title

Specialist Palliative Care Units

Reference Number: RDF1473-23

Date of Response: 23/05/23

Further to your Freedom of Information Act request, please find the Trust's response(s) below:

Please be aware that the Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (Royal Devon) has existed since 1st April 2022 following the integration of the Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust (known as Northern Services) and the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust (known as Eastern Services).

Dear Freedom of Information Team,

I am collecting evidence in relation to the end-of-life experiences of dying adults and wish submit the following questions to you under the Freedom of Information Act.

- 1. Are there any Specialist Palliative Care Units (SPCUs) within your Trust? If yes, please provide the name and address of these.*

Answer: Royal Devon do not have Specialist Palliative Care Units; a Specialist Palliative Care Team offers support to all teams that the patient sits under.

- 2. Please provide information on the following within your Trust between January 2017 and December 2022 (inclusive). Broken down by year if possible:*

- a. The number of suicides in SPCUs (by adults 18+)*

Answer: Not applicable. Please see response to question 1.

- b. The number of attempted suicides in SPCUs (by adults 18+)*

Answer: Not applicable. Please see response to question 1.

- 3. Please provide information on the following within your Trust between January 2017 and December 2022 (inclusive), excluding data provided in Q2. Broken down by year if possible:*

- a. The number of suicides in any hospital ward by patients receiving specialist palliative care (by adults 18+)*

- b. The number of attempted suicides in any hospital ward by patients receiving specialist palliative care (by adults 18+)*

Answer: The Trust has considered your request; however, the Trust does not code the information as per the request, therefore is unable to provide a report. To provide you with the information requested would require the manual extraction and manipulation of information from various sources, including systems and legacy systems and individual patient records. To carry out this work would exceed the appropriate

cost limit as set out in Section 12 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is therefore exempt.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 Section 12 (1) and defined in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004, a public authority is not obliged to comply with a request for information if it estimates the cost of complying would exceed the appropriate limit. The limit of £450 represents the estimated cost of one person spending two and a half days in determining whether the Trust holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting that information.