

Title: Inpatient Falls

Reference Number: RDF1325-23

Date of Response: 08/03/23

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).

1. *For each financial year from 2010/11 to 2022/23, please can you provide the total number of inpatient falls recorded at hospital, the total number of those falls resulting in injury to the patient, the total number of those falls resulting in death of the patient.*

Answer: Please see table below. Due to the low patient numbers we are unable to provide the '*the total number of those falls resulting in death of the patient*', these figures are incorporated in the '*the total number of those falls resulting in injury to the patient*' to avoid impact and harm to patient families.

In accordance with Section 40 (2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we are unable to provide figures where the number of patients is less than or equal to five and could risk the identification of those patients and breach Caldicott principles.

These figures are withheld under Section 40(2) due to low staff numbers. The disclosure of which could risk the identification of those staff members and breach Caldicott principles.

This follows NHS Digital (formerly HSCIC) analysis guidance (2014) which states that small numbers within local authorities, wards, postcode districts, CCG's providers and Trusts may allow identification of patients and should not be published.

<i>Number of falls</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>No. Falls resulting in No Harm</i>	<i>No. Falls resulting in Harm/injury</i>	<i>Total No of Falls</i>
	2012	1,420	852	2,272
	2013	1,907	976	2,883
	2014	2,101	952	3,053
	2015	2,164	866	3,030
	2016	1,940	755	2,695
	2017	1,575	637	2,212
	2018	1,387	675	2,062
	2019	1,490	639	2,129
	2020	1,600	436	2,036

	2021	1,672	439	2,111
	2022	1,827	712	2,539
	2023 to 28/02/23	264	135	399

The Trust has considered your request for 2010/2011 data, however to provide you with the information requested would require the manual extraction and manipulation of information from various sources due to legacy processes. 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.