

**Information Governance**

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**Website:** <https://www.elft.nhs.uk>

24 October 2023

**Our reference: FOI DA4979**

I am responding to your request for information received 28 September 2023. This has been treated as a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am now enclosing a response which is attached to the end of this letter. Please do not hesitate to contact me on the contact details above if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

Information Rights Coordinator

If you are dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your FOIA request then you should contact us and we will arrange for an internal review of this decision.

If you remain dissatisfied with the decision following our response to your complaint, you may write to the Information Commissioner for a decision under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113  
Web: [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

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We promise to work together creatively to: learn 'what matters' to everyone, achieve a better quality of life and continuously improve our services.  
**We care . We respect . We are inclusive**

**Interim Chief Executive Officer:** Lorraine Sunduza  
**Chair:** Eileen Taylor

**Request:** I am writing under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information.

Please provide details of the number of suicides by inpatients under the care of mental health services at your Trust.

**Question 1:** Please provide figures for all inpatient suicides recorded by the Trust (including alleged/ suspected suicides, and suicides confirmed by a coroner), for the years 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23.

**Answer:** The Trust has reviewed question 1 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 21(1) of the FOI Act states:

*(1) Information which is reasonably accessible to the applicant otherwise than under section 1 is exempt information.*

The information requested for 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21 is accessible here:

<https://www.elft.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/2023-06/Anon%20Response%20-%20FOI%20DA4595.pdf>

For 2021/22 and 2022/23, please see table below:

Financial Year	Number of inpatient suicides
2021/2022	5
2022/2023	1

**Question 2:** For each death, please could you provide a summary where possible covering the date of the incident, the site/ ward of the incident, and the gender and age of the patient.

**Answer:** The Trust has reviewed question 2 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 40 for the FOI Act states:

*(2) This exemption covers the personal data of third parties (anyone other than the requester) where complying with the request would breach any of the principles in the UK GDPR.*

The information you have requested has the potential for those individuals to be identified. We can therefore not provide this information which could contravene the Data Protection Act 2018 / UK GDPR.



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