

King's Mill Hospital
Mansfield Road
Sutton in Ashfield
Nottinghamshire
NG17 4JL

Tel: 01623 622515
Join today: www.sfh-tr.nhs.uk

Direct Line: 01623 672232
Our Ref: 1370
E-mail: sfh-tr.foi.requests@nhs.net

4th June 2026

[REDACTED]

Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000 - Request for Information Reference: Medical examiner cause of death certification

I am writing in response to your request for information under the FOI 2000.

I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold some of the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below. Please accept our sincere apologies for the delay.

Home, Community, Hospital.

FOI Request / Question	Question Response	Is there an exemption?	Exemption	Exemption Details
1. The number of deaths for which the medical examiner signed the MCCD form within 5 days of the date of death at your trust per month, from September 2024 to December 2025.		Yes	Section 12 - Over Fees Limit of £450 or 18 hours	<p>I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold the information you have requested.</p> <p>Section 12 of the Act allows the Trust to refuse to deal with any requests where we estimate that responding to the request would exceed the cost limit. We have identified that the questions will exceed the cost limit. For public authorities the cost limit is £450 (18 hours). If responding to one part of a request would exceed the cost limit, we do not have to provide a response to any other parts of the request. Therefore, the estimated cost of processing your request is £5,625.00. This charge has been calculated in accordance with section 13 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Freedom of Information Fees Regulations.</p>
2. The number of deaths for which the medical examiner signed the MCCD form more than 5 days after death at your trust per month, from September 2024 to December 2025.				
3. For each month, please share the length of the longest delay experienced at the trust that month between date of death and ME signature.				<p>We do not hold the information in the detail requested. To gather the information requested it would require re-review of 6 quarterly submissions</p>

<p>4. For each month, please share the length of the shortest time elapsed between date of death and ME signature.</p>				<p>It is estimated it would take 225 hrs based on re-review of 6 quarterly submissions. We estimate that the cost of satisfying your request will be £5,625.00 (225 hours x £25 per hour).</p>
<p>5. For each month, please share the average (mean) number of days between dates of death and ME signatures of MCCD forms.</p>				<p>Under section 16 of the Act we are obliged to advise you to refine your request to narrow the scope in order to bring it within the appropriate limit. We could supply data in line with the quarterly submission to NHS England however this would still not be in the detail requested. Our submission to NHS England excludes cases referred to Coroner which again will impact on the data available against data requested. If you are unable to reduce the scope of the request the Trust will be unable to continue processing your request until the fee is paid. If you wish to proceed with this request the fee will need to be paid within three calendar months. If the fee is not received by this date, I shall take it that you do not wish to pursue this request and will consider the request closed.</p>

I trust this information answers your request. Should you have any further enquiries or queries about this response please do not hesitate to contact me. However, if you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Sally Brook Shanahan, Director of Corporate Affairs, King's Mill Hospital, Mansfield Road, Sutton in Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, NG17 4JL or email sally.brookshanahan@nhs.net.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office, who will consider whether we have complied with our obligations under the Act and can require us to remedy any problems. Generally, the Information Commissioner's Office cannot decide unless you have exhausted the internal review procedure. You can find out more about how to do this, and about the Act in general, on the Information Commissioner's Office website at: <https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/official-information/>.

Complaints to the Information Commissioner's Office should be sent to FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Telephone 0303 1231113, email casework@ico.org.uk.

If you would like this letter or information in an alternative format, for example large print or easy read, or if you need help with communicating with us, for example because you use British Sign Language, please let us know. You can call us on 01623 672232 or email sfh-tr.foi.requests@nhs.net.

Yours faithfully

Information Governance Team

All information we have provided is subject to the provisions of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015. Accordingly, if the information has been made available for re-use under the [Open Government Licence](#) (OGL) a request to re-use is not required, but the licence conditions must be met. You must not re-use any previously unreleased information without having the consent from Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Should you wish to re-use previously unreleased information then you must make your request in writing. All requests for re-use will be responded to within 20 working days of receipt.