Freedom of Information Request

Reference Number: EPUT.FOI.20.1776
Date Received: 18th December 2020

Information Requested:

I am wishing to gather various data/information under the Freedom of Information Act regarding the number of deaths within the Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust:

1. Where Covid-19 is listed as the direct cause of death (ie: which would fall in Section Ia of the MCCD) - how many between 1st February 2020 and 30th November 2020.

   It is not possible to provide this information from the Trust electronic systems, this would require a clinical audit which would exceed the time and cost limits, as set out in the Act. The Trust is therefore applying *Section 12 of the Act (where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit).

   However the Trust can give assurance that it is reporting the deaths as per the national CPNS (Covid-19 Patient Notification System) guidance as required and can confirm from 1st February 2020 to 30th November 2020 inclusive there have been a total of 19 Covid-19 related deaths (either direct or indirect cause) on our inpatient wards.

2. Where Covid-19 is listed as the only contributing or underlying cause of death (ie: which would fall in section Ib or Ic of the MCCD) - how many between 1st February 2020 and 30th November 2020.

   Please see response to Question 1

3. Where other conditions or diseases existed, which were underlying or contributing causes of death as well as Covid-19 (ie: which would fall within section I - b or c of the MCCD) - how many between 1st February 2020 and 30th November 2020.

   Please see response to Question 1

*Exemption: Section 12 (Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit):

(1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

(2) Subsection (1) does not exempt the public authority from its obligation to comply with paragraph (a) of section 1(1) unless the estimated cost of complying with that paragraph alone would exceed the appropriate limit.

(3) In subsections (1) and (2) “the appropriate limit” means such amount as may be prescribed, and different amounts may be prescribed in relation to different cases.
(4) The Secretary of State may by regulations provide that, in such circumstances as may be prescribed, where two or more requests for information are made to a public authority—

(a) by one person, or

(b) by different persons who appear to the public authority to be acting in concert or in pursuance of a campaign, the estimated cost of complying with any of the requests is to be taken to be the estimated total cost of complying with all of them

(5) The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision for the purposes of this section as to the costs to be estimated and as to the manner in which they are to be estimated

Publication Scheme:

As part of the Freedom of Information Act all public organisations are required to proactively publish certain classes of information on a Publication Scheme. A publication scheme is a guide to the information that is held by the organisation. EPUT’s Publication Scheme is located on its Website at the following link [https://eput.nhs.uk](https://eput.nhs.uk)