Information Requested:

1. Please can you tell me how many Structured Judgment Reviews (SJRs) the trust has carried out since 1st January 2020 and how many of these reviews involved the death of a patient with hospital acquired covid.

   If the trust does not use the SJR method, please can you give me the numbers for the equivalent method you use e.g. a Serious Incident. For the avoidance of doubt, when I refer to hospital-acquired covid I am referring to both probable cases (a positive test 8-14 days after admission) and definite cases (testing positive 15 days or more after admission).

   83 Serious Incident investigations have been completed since 1st January 2020. Please note that these do not all involve the death of a patient.

   None of these involved the death of a patient with hospital acquired covid. The Trust is currently undertaking a review of all Covid-19 related deaths and any identified as hospital acquired will go through the serious incident process in due course

2. What was the outcome of the SJRs (or SIs, if the SJR system is not used). For each SJR please give a brief summary of outcome e.g. any particular processes that were changed, any conclusion as to what went wrong).

   The Trust is unable to provide this information as it does not use the term “outcome” as part of the SI process. However to collate information regarding the actions that resulted from recommendations would require a manual trawl of each individual file to identify “outcomes” which would exceed the time and costs limits as set out in the Act. The Trust is therefore applying Section 12 of the Act (where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit)

Applied 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