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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board

Our Ref: JP/lab/FOI 20-434

Direct Line: 01633 435956
FOI.ABB@wales.nhs.uk

11th January 2021

John Thomas

request-712620-c9a2d9b2@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Mr Thomas

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act, received on 13th December 2020, reference number **FOI 20-434**. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding. I can confirm that the Health Board has completed a search of its records and has established that in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a Refusal Notice under section 17 of the Act.

Please could you forward the Number of Covid deaths with no pre existing conditions

The Health Board can confirm that in order to gather this information we would have to carry out a specific exercise of reviewing the Medical Certificate Cause of Death (MCCD) books in each of our sites to determine the cause of death with no contributing factors. We have calculated that in order to comply with your request it would exceed the appropriate costs limit under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This is currently £450. In reaching this decision we estimate that it would take staff approximately 88 hours to review death information in relation COVID-19. This figure is based on a timescale of 10 minutes per patient death, there being 528 COVID-19 deaths that have occurred during the period 15th March 2020 to 11th December 2020 in our hospitals. Therefore, to obtain the data would work out at approximately 88 hours @ £25.00 per hour (cost permitted under the Act) = £2,200.00. As you will be aware this is not an exemption which requires us to consider the application of the public interest test.

Under our obligation to advise and assist, we have also provided website link to the Public Health Wales (PHW) site where you will be able to access further information on the cause of death by location.

<https://public.tableau.com/profile/public.health.wales.health.protection#!/vizhome/RapidCOVID-19virology-Public/Headlinesummary>

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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Aneurin Bevan yw enw gweithredol Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Aneurin Bevan
Aneurin Bevan University Health Board is the operational name of Aneurin Bevan University Local Health Board

If you are not satisfied that the information you have requested has not been provided, or because of the way your request has been handled, you have the right to request a review. This would be looked into in accordance with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) guidelines, which state that a request for review should be received within two months of you receiving the Health Board's response to your request for information.

Please contact Richard Howells, Board Secretary, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, Headquarters, St Cadoc's Hospital, Lodge Road, Caerleon, Newport, NP18 3XQ, email: ABB.BoardSecretary@wales.nhs.uk in the first instance if you wish to request a review.

If you are still dissatisfied at the end of the review, you have the right to take your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at the following address:

Information Commissioner's Office - Wales
2nd Floor
Churchill House
Churchill Way
Cardiff
CF10 2HH

Telephone: 0330 414 6421
Email: wales@ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely



Judith Paget
Prif Weithredwr / Chief Executive