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WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Aneurin Bevan  
University Health Board

Our Ref: lab/FOI 21-071

Direct Line: 01633 435956  
[FOI.ABB@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:FOI.ABB@wales.nhs.uk)

26<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Matthew Davies

[request-723581-2ad151a4@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-723581-2ad151a4@whatdotheyknow.com)

Dear Mr Davies

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act, received on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021, reference number **FOI 21-071**. 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.

**1. What was the total number of deaths linked to COVID 19 inside both hospitals and care homes?**

The Health Board reports every death in our hospitals to Public Health Wales (PHW), this includes all causation factors. Public Health Wales will then perform statistical alignment meeting the definition of a COVID death and the patient place of residence as some of the Health Board area residents may die in other hospitals outside of the Aneurin Bevan Health Board responsibility. All Health Board deaths data is reported on the Public Health Wales website and in the Office of National Statistics (ONS) data.

Please refer to PHW website and PHW for further information via the following link below:

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

**2. How many deaths linked to COVID 19 also had a DNR notice?**

The Health Board can confirm that in order to gather this information we would have to carry out a specific exercise of reviewing the individual's death certificate and their medical record to determine if they had a Do Not Resuscitate notice. 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, which is currently £450. As you will be aware this is not an exemption which requires us to consider the application of the public interest test.

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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

Under our obligation to advise and assist, we have also provided website links to the Office of National Statistics (ONS) and Public Health Wales (PHW) 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>

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths/bulletins/deathsinvolvingcovid19bylocalareasanddeprivation/deathsoccurringbetween1marchand31july2020#local-authorities>

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](mailto: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  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Churchill House  
Churchill Way  
Cardiff  
CF10 2HH

Telephone: 0330 414 6421  
Email: [wales@ico.org.uk](mailto:wales@ico.org.uk)

Yours sincerely



**Judith Paget**  
**Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive**