

## Corporate Administration

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde  
Corporate HQ  
J B Russell House  
Gartnavel Royal Hospital  
Campus  
1055 Great Western Road  
GLASGOW  
G12 0XH



Telephone: 0141 201 4444

Mr Derek Reid

SENT BY EMAIL TO:

[request-773453-](#)

[0b0e6fee@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:0b0e6fee@whatdotheyknow.com)

<b>Date</b>	10 August 2021
<b>Your Ref</b>	
<b>Our Ref</b>	FOI 17125
<b>Direct Line</b>	Working remotely
<b>Email</b>	foi@ggc.scot.nhs.uk
<b>Contact</b>	

Dear Mr Reid

### REQUEST FOR INFORMATION FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002

Thank you for your request received on 12 July 2021 for the provision of the following information:-

***1, Under the freedom of information request system can you please tell me how many patients needs intubated (ventilator treatment) solely due to Covid - 19 with no underlying health conditions from March 2020 to current date?***

***2, How many patients have died from the common cold/flu since March 2020 to current date?***

We are treating your request under our procedures for responding to requests for information under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. The information that we are able to provide in response to your request is given below, underneath your questions.

***1, Under the freedom of information request system can you please tell me how many patients needs intubated (ventilator treatment) solely due to Covid - 19 with no underlying health conditions from March 2020 to current date?***

This specific information is not recorded by us in an accessible, central database. In formal terms, under Section 17 of FOISA I am required to inform you that NHSGGC does not hold the information you request in a database which enables us to extract the information to enable us to respond.

We took advice from colleagues in the Scottish Intensive Care Society Audit Group (SICSAG) of Public Health Scotland and they have explained that data about patients being intubated are recorded in a database but it does not require the reason for the patients' admission to ICU to be recorded. This means that it is not possible to identify those patients who are being treated for Covid-19. Also, this record does not list co-morbidities (where a patient is being treated for more than one condition) and so would not identify those patients being treated solely due to Covid-19. Public Health Scotland (PHS) have confirmed that they would not be able to answer your specific question either.

For your further information we are providing a link to the publications page of the SICSAG website which includes reports on Covid patients being treated in ICU and HDU:

<https://www.sicsag.scot.nhs.uk/publications/main.htm>

***2, How many patients have died from the common cold/flu since March 2020 to current date?***

Please note that, in general, NHSGGC does not record information on all deaths. The information provided by National Records of Scotland (NRS) is the authoritative source of data on deaths in Scotland and within the NHSGGC health board area.

Data on the number of deaths from a range of diagnoses, both nationally in Scotland and within the NHSGGC health board area, are publicly available on the NRS website. These data are updated quarterly.

As this information is publicly available and can reasonably be accessed by you, the applicant, we are exempt from providing this in response to a request under section 1(1) of FOISA, as set out in section 25(1) of FOISA. However under the duty to provide reasonable advice and assistance as set out in section 15 of FOISA, we are providing a link to the Births, Deaths and Other Vital Events - Quarterly Figures:

<https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/vital-events/general-publications/births-deaths-and-other-vital-events-quarterly-figures>

Table Q6 lists the numbers and causes of death J00-J11 which includes influenza by Health Board. To assist you we have extracted the table and are providing it separately as document A. The local data published by NRS may not be complete as, within NHSGGC we treat patients who reside in other Health Board areas to which we do not have access to death records.

For your further information we are providing a link to the Winter Mortality pages of the NRS website:

<https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/vital-events/deaths/winter-mortality>

I hope that this is helpful. If you are not satisfied with our response to your request, you have a right to request a review of this decision within 40 working days of receiving this response. The attached note describes our review procedure. Your request for review must be in permanent form and should state:

- That you are asking for a review of this decision and
- Why you are unhappy with the response you have received.

If you wish us to carry out a review, please complete the form enclosed and return it to the Head of Corporate Governance and Administration, NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde, Corporate HQ, JB Russell House, Gartnavel Royal Hospital, 1055 Great Western Road, Glasgow G12 0XH or by email to [foi@ggc.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@ggc.scot.nhs.uk)

If following a review you remain dissatisfied with the outcome, you have the right to ask for advice, assistance or to make a formal appeal in writing to the Scottish Information Commissioner within six months of receiving the outcome of a review. The Commissioner can be contacted at: Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS or at [www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal)

If following appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner you still remain dissatisfied with the outcome, you have a right of appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law against the decision of the Scottish Information Commissioner.

Should you require any clarification about this letter or the right to request a review please contact me at the details at the top of the first page of this letter.

Yours sincerely

*Kay Dougans*

**Kay Dougans**  
**Freedom of Information Officer**

Standard Enclosures:  
FOI Requirement for Review document  
Request for Review form