

Protecting and improving the nation's health

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www.gov.uk/phe

## By email

request-718770-53a42dc9@whatdotheyknow.com

Our ref: 17/01/tr/2479

12 February 2021

Dear David Scott,

## Re: Number of deaths caused by COVID-19

Thank you for your request received on 17 January 2021 addressed to Public Health England (PHE). In accordance with Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act), I can confirm that PHE does not hold the information you have specified.

## Request

Please provide the number of deaths of covid19 in the UK. Deaths where covid 19 was the cause of death. This means deaths of the virus and not with the virus or after a positive test.

## Response

PHE does not hold information in the way you have requested. Under Section 16 of the FOI Act, public authorities have a duty to provide advice and assistance. Accordingly, you may wish to contact the Office of National Statistics (ONS), which holds responsibility for the registration of death certificates in England.

You can access ONS datasets related to deaths at:

https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths

If you have any queries regarding the information that has been supplied to you, please refer your query to me in writing in the first instance. If you remain dissatisfied and would like to request an internal review, then please contact us at the address above or by emailing foi@phe.gov.uk.

Please note that you have the right to an independent review by the Information Commissioner's Office if a complaint cannot be resolved through the PHE complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner's Office can be contacted by calling the ICO's helpline on 0303 123 1113, visiting the ICO's website at

www.ico.org.uk or writing to the ICO at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely FOI Team