

- 1. How many people within the hospitals covered by you have died of COVID-19 between January 1st 2020 and October 31st 2020.**
- 2. How many people died of all other respiratory diseases, including influenza and pneumonia during the same period.**
- 3. How many people died of all respiratory diseases, including influenza and pneumonia between January 1st and October 31st 2019.**
- 4. How many people died of all respiratory diseases, including influenza and pneumonia between January 1st and October 31st 2018.**

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 54 hours to review death information in relation COVID-19 alone. This figure is based on a timescale of 10 minutes per patient death, there being 324 COVID-19 deaths that have occurred during the period requested in our hospitals. Therefore, to obtain the data would work out at approximately 54 hours @ £25.00 per hour (cost permitted under the Act) = £1,350.00. 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>