

Request for the number of deaths directly related to Covid 19 in wales that had absolutely no underlying issues prior to contraction/infection since January 1st 2020

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 99 hours to review death information in relation COVID-19. This figure is based on a timescale of 10 minutes per patient death, there being 593 COVID-19 deaths that have occurred during the period 1st January 2020 to 19th December 2020 in our hospitals. Therefore, to obtain the data would work out at approximately 99 hours @ £25.00 per hour (cost permitted under the Act) = £2,475.00. 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>