

Freedom of Information Act Request

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following information:

1. The number of patients who have died while on your waiting list to receive consultant-led elective (planned) hospital treatment — and who have therefore been removed from the list due to their death or status as being deceased — between January 1 2025 and July 31 2025? (If your trust calls this particular waiting list something else, please use common sense and provide the waiting list data most relevant to my questions.)

1a. If possible, please tell me how many of these people who died had been waiting for longer than 18 weeks since being referred for consultant-led elective hospital treatment?

1b. If possible, please provide a separate breakdown of the ethnicity and religion of all those who died while on this your waiting list to receive consultant-led elective (planned) hospital treatment over this time period.

2. The number of patients who have died while on your waiting list to receive consultant-led elective (planned) hospital treatment — and who have therefore been removed from the list due to their death or status as being deceased — broken down into the years 2024, 2023, 2022, 2021 and 2020, please.

2a. If possible, please provide a separate breakdown of the ethnicity and religion of those who died while on your waiting list for consultant-led elective (planned) hospital treatment in each of these years.

Question 1:

The number of people who died while on the Referral to Treatment waiting list in January-June 2025, as well as a breakdown by whether they were waiting over 18 weeks and by ethnicity & religion, is provided below. Unfortunately, we cannot provide July's data as it has not yet been nationally released, and the subcategories we can provide are limited by patient confidentiality requirements for small numbers

Ethnicity	Religion	Wait Time		
		Under 18 Weeks	18 Weeks and over	Grand Total
British	Christian	259	123	382
	Unknown	58	24	82
	Other/Not Religious	26	15	41
	Total	343	162	505

Other	Christian			13
	Unknown			14
	Other/Not Religious			6
	Total	22	11	33
Grand Total	365	173	538	

Question 2:

The number of waiting list deaths from 2020-2024, broken down by ethnicity & religion, is provided below. Unfortunately some ethnic/religious categories are grouped to prevent patient identification with small numbers.

Ethnicity	Religion	Year					Grand Total
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
British	Christian	690	709	893	891	959	4142
	Unknown	81	94	122	131	142	570
	Not Religious	47	42	64	48	68	269
	Atheist						23
	Agnostic						18
	Spiritualist						13
	Other						10
	Total	830	855	1092	1082	1186	5045
Other	Christian	11	19	32	24	33	119
	Unknown	23	36	50	42	43	194
	Muslim						29
	Sikh						14
	Not Religious						11
	Other						12
	Total	42	69	94	79	95	379
Grand Total	872	924	1186	1161	1281	5424	

If you are not satisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Requests for an internal review should be submitted within 40 working days from the date of this response, and should be addressed to d.wraith@nhs.net.

Our Ref: 504
August 2025

If you remain dissatisfied after the internal review, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 0303 123 1113
Website: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/>