

Reference:	FOI.5217.21
Subject:	COVID-19 deaths
Date of Request:	2 February 2021

Requested:

I would like you to supply me with the following information between 1st February and 31st December 2020.

1. What was the total number of deaths linked to COVID-19 inside both hospitals and care homes?
2. How many deaths linked to COVID 19 also had a DNR notice?

Response:

1. Information on COVID-19 deaths is within the public domain; therefore, Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) has applied an exemption under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA), as the information is accessible by another means. The information requested is available on the Public Health Wales (PHW) website.

For ease of reference please click on the attached link which will take you directly to the PHW COVID-19 confirmed deaths webpage:

[Rapid COVID-19 virology - Public - Public Health Wales Health Protection | Tableau Public](#)

The UHB does not report on deaths in care homes or the community. We would therefore recommend that you redirect your request to the Freedom of Information Team in each County Council who may be able to help you with your enquiry. Contact details have been provided below:-

Freedom of Information Office, Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall, Castle Hill, Carmarthen, SA31 1JP.

Complaints & Freedom of Information Team, Canolfan Rheidol, Rhodfa Padarn, Llanbadarn Fawr, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23 3UE or by email: foi@ceredigion.gov.uk

Pembrokeshire County Council, County Hall, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA61 1TP or by email: FOI@pembrokeshire.gov.uk

2. The UHB is unable to provide you with the information requested as it is estimated that the cost of answering your request would exceed the “appropriate level” as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004. The “appropriate level” represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours or (2 ½ working days) in determining whether the UHB holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

In order to provide you with the requested information, the UHB would need to undertake a manual trawl of all patient COVID-19 related death records to identify which patients may have had a DNR notice.

The UHB is therefore applying an exemption under Section 12 of the FOIA, which provides an exemption from a public authority's obligation to comply with a request for information where the cost of compliance is estimated to exceed the appropriate limit.