

<b>Reference:</b>	FOI.5507.21
<b>Subject:</b>	COVID-19 deaths
<b>Date of Request:</b>	4 March 2021

**Requested:**

I would like to know the following information with regards to all four main hospitals within the Hywel Dda Health Board, namely, Withybush, Glangwili, Prince Philip and Bronglais Hospitals.

1. How many individuals have died with COVID-19 as their main cause of death from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 to December 31<sup>st</sup> 2020? So not COVID-19 related but COVID-19 as the number one cause of death on the death certificate.
2. What was the average age of these deaths?

**Response:**

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with all of 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 manually scrutinise the patient records of all those that died as a result of COVID-19, to identify any information that fulfils your request, as this information is not recorded centrally.

The UHB is therefore applying an exemption under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (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.

Under section 16 of the FoIA, we are required, as a public authority, to provide advice and assistance so far as it is reasonable, to individuals who have made a request under FOIA.

1. & 2. The UHB provides, within the table below, the number of COVID-19 related inpatient deaths, by hospital and average age, as recorded on the UHB’s Welsh Patient Administration System (WPAS) during the period January to December 2020, as requested.

<b>Hospital</b>	<b>Number of deaths</b>	<b>Average age</b>
Bronglais General Hospital	17	81
Glangwili General Hospital	103	77
Prince Philip Hospital	65	76
Withybush General Hospital	57	80

Additionally, information on confirmed COVID-19 deaths is available on the Public Health Wales (PHW) website via the coronavirus dashboard.

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

<https://phw.nhs.wales/topics/latest-information-on-novel-coronavirus-covid-19/>