

Human Tissue Authority
151 Buckingham Palace Road
London
SW1W 9SZ

By email to [REDACTED]

Tel 020 7269 1900
Web www.hta.gov.uk
Email enquiries@hta.gov.uk
Date 10 February 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information request

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), which was received by the Human Tissue Authority (HTA) on 13 January 2020. Your email outlined the following request:

Previously in an email dated 20-2-2014 you provided a response to a Freedom of Information Act request where you detailed the location, incident classification and summarised description of HTARIs for the 2013 calendar year

Could you provide me with a similar response for HTARIs that took place in the 2019 calendar year?

Response

The information requested is provided in the table below. This is for incidents reported to have occurred in 2019, and which have been closed on our systems and determined to be HTA Reportable Incidents (HTARIs).

| Date incident occurred | Establishment (hub site) | Licence number | Incident classification | Summary of incident |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Jan-19 | UCL Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust | 12054 | Serious security breach | Human error led to a security breach. |

| | | | | |
|--------|--|-------|--|---|
| Jan-19 | Wednesfield Public Mortuary | 12285 | Release of the wrong body | Human error led to the release of the wrong body. |
| Jan-19 | Basildon University Hospital | 12051 | Any incident not listed here that could result in adverse publicity that may lead to damage in public confidence | Human error led to loss of tissue. |
| Jan-19 | Broomfield Hospital | 12441 | Accidental damage to a body | Human error led to accidental damage to a body. |
| Jan-19 | Southampton General Hospital | 12214 | Accidental damage to a body | Human error led to accidental damage to a body. |
| Jan-19 | Hull Royal Infirmary | 12170 | Accidental damage to a body | Human error led to accidental damage to body. |
| Jan-19 | Royal Glamorgan Hospital | 12338 | Loss, disposal or retention of a whole fetus or fetal tissue (gestational age less than 24 weeks) against the express wishes of the family | Human error led to disposal by a method not in accordance with the family's wishes. |
| Jan-19 | Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust - Central Hospitals | 12554 | Release of the wrong body | Procedural error led to the release of the wrong body. |
| Jan-19 | Basildon University Hospital | 12051 | Major equipment failure | Equipment failure led to the temporary relocation of a body. |
| Jan-19 | Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital | 11208 | Loss of an organ or tissue | Human error led to loss of an organ. |

| | | | | |
|--------|------------------------------|-------|--|--|
| Feb-19 | Leighton Hospital | 12145 | Major equipment failure | Fridge failure resulted in transfer of bodies to other premises. |
| Feb-19 | Holly Tree Lodge | 12405 | Serious security breach | Security breach of mortuary processes. |
| Feb-19 | George Eliot Hospital | 12171 | Viewing of the wrong body | Ineffective communication led to viewing of the wrong body. |
| Feb-19 | Queen's Medical Centre | 12258 | Any incident not listed here that could result in adverse publicity that may lead to damage in public confidence | Release of a body led to a complaint by a family. |
| Feb-19 | Queen's Medical Centre | 12258 | Loss, disposal or retention of a whole fetus or fetal tissue (gestational age less than 24 weeks) against the express wishes of the family | Human error led to inadvertent disposal of tissue. |
| Feb-19 | Pinderfields Hospital | 12086 | Accidental damage to a body | Human error led to accidental damage to a body. |
| Feb-19 | Countess of Chester Hospital | 12049 | Loss, disposal or retention of a whole fetus or fetal tissue (gestational age less than 24 weeks) against the express wishes of the family | Human error led to delayed disposal. |

| | | | | |
|--------|------------------------------|-------|--|---|
| Feb-19 | Countess of Chester Hospital | 12049 | Loss, disposal or retention of a whole fetus or fetal tissue (gestational age less than 24 weeks) against the express wishes of the family | Human error led to delayed disposal. |
| Feb-19 | Addenbrooke's Hospital | 12318 | Accidental damage to a body | Human error led to accidental damage to a body. |
| Feb-19 | Arrowe Park Hospital | 12027 | Release of the wrong body | Human error led to the release of the wrong body. |
| Feb-19 | Harrogate District Hospital | 12118 | Loss, disposal or retention of a whole fetus or fetal tissue (gestational age less than 24 weeks) against the express wishes of the family | Procedural error led to incorrect disposal of tissue. |
| Feb-19 | Dorset County Hospital | 12449 | Accidental damage to a body | Procedural error led to damage to a body. |
| Feb-19 | Peterborough City Hospital | 30032 | Post-mortem examination conducted was not in line with the consent given or the post-mortem examination proceeded with inadequate consent | Post-mortem examination conducted was not in line with the Coroner's request. |
| Mar-19 | St George's Hospital | 12387 | Release of the wrong body | Human error led to the release of the wrong body. |

| | | | | |
|--------|-------------------------------------|-------|--|--|
| Mar-19 | Royal Surrey County Hospital | 12222 | Accidental damage to a body | Accidental damage to the deceased when placing in the mortuary fridge. |
| Mar-19 | The Royal Oldham Hospital | 12342 | Accidental damage to a body | Human error led to accidental damage to a body. |
| Mar-19 | Dorset County Hospital | 12449 | Accidental damage to a body | Procedural error led to damage to a body. |
| Mar-19 | Dorset County Hospital | 12449 | Major equipment failure | Fridge failure led to deterioration in the condition of a body. |
| Mar-19 | Royal Glamorgan Hospital | 12338 | Loss, disposal or retention of a whole fetus or fetal tissue (gestational age less than 24 weeks) against the express wishes of the family | Human error led to loss of traceability of tissue. |
| Mar-19 | Haringey Public Mortuary | 12263 | Post-mortem examination of the wrong body | Human error led to incorrect identification of the deceased. |
| Mar-19 | West Suffolk Hospital | 12242 | Accidental damage to a body | Human error led to accidental damage to a body. |
| Mar-19 | Royal Derby Hospital | 12537 | Serious security breach | Security breach resulting in theft of staff belongings. |
| Mar-19 | Royal Stoke University Hospital | 12224 | Any incident not listed here that could result in adverse publicity that may lead to damage in public confidence | Complaint received for alleged theft of valuables. |
| Apr-19 | Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust | 12398 | Major equipment failure | Fridge failure led to transfer of bodies to a temporary fridge unit. |

| | | | | |
|--------|--|--|--|---|
| Apr-19 | Papworth Hospital | 12209 (licence revoked May 2019, due to service relocation) | Serious security breach | Failure to follow identity confirmation procedure led to unauthorised access to the mortuary. |
| Apr-19 | University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire | 30018 | Loss, disposal or retention of a whole fetus or fetal tissue (gestational age less than 24 weeks) against the express wishes of the family | Procedural error led to disposal by a means not in line with the family's wishes. |
| May-19 | Northampton General Hospital | 12253 | Release of the wrong body | Human error led to the short term release of the wrong body. |
| May-19 | Arrowe Park Hospital | 12027 | Release of the wrong body | Human error led to the release of the wrong body. |
| May-19 | Addenbrooke's Hospital | 12318 | Accidental damage to a body | Human error led to accidental damage to a body. |
| May-19 | The Royal London Hospital | 12187 | Disposal or retention of an organ or tissue against the express wishes of the family | Human error led to loss of tissue. |
| May-19 | UCL Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust | 12054 | Serious security breach | Procedural error led to breach of mortuary security processes. |
| May-19 | The Royal Oldham Hospital | 12342 | Accidental damage to a body | Human error led to accidental damage to a body. |
| May-19 | Tameside General Hospital | 12067 | Viewing of the wrong body | Human error led to a viewing of a wrong body. |

| | | | | |
|--------|--|-------|-----------------------------|--|
| Jun-19 | Brent, Harrow and Barnet Public Mortuary | 12017 | Loss of an organ or tissue | Human error led to loss of tissue. |
| Jun-19 | Tameside General Hospital | 12067 | Release of the wrong body | Human error led to the release of the wrong body. |
| Jun-19 | University Hospital Lewisham | 12266 | Accidental damage to a body | Human error led to damage to a body whilst being transferred into the mortuary. |
| Jun-19 | Wednesfield Public Mortuary | 12285 | Accidental damage to a body | Procedural error led to deterioration in the condition of a body. |
| Jun-19 | St Peter's Hospital | 12542 | Major equipment failure | Temporary equipment failure resulted in relocation of the deceased. |
| Jun-19 | Ipswich Hospital | 30017 | Accidental damage to a body | Human error led to minor damage to the body during a post-mortem examination. |
| Jun-19 | James Cook University Hospital | 12089 | Accidental damage to a body | Human error led to minor damage to a body during a post-mortem examination. |
| Jul-19 | James Paget University Hospital | 12127 | Accidental damage to a body | Accidental damage to a body during transfer to mortuary storage. |
| Jul-19 | Leicester Royal Infirmary | 12337 | Major equipment failure | Equipment failure resulted in temporary transfer of bodies to alternative storage. |
| Jul-19 | Sandwell General Hospital | 12131 | Accidental damage to a body | Human error led to minor accidental damage to a body. |
| Jul-19 | Royal Shrewsbury Hospital | 12184 | Accidental damage to a body | Procedural error led to accidental damage to a body. |
| Jul-19 | University Hospital of North Durham | 12461 | Accidental damage to a body | Procedural error for storage conditions led to damage to a body. |

| | | | | |
|--------|--|-------|--|--|
| Jul-19 | William Harvey Hospital | 30011 | Accidental damage to a body | Human error led to accidental damage to a body whilst being transferred into the mortuary. |
| Jul-19 | King's Mill Hospital | 12451 | Accidental damage to a body | Human error led to accidental damage to a body. |
| Aug-19 | Royal Hampshire County Hospital | 12014 | Major equipment failure | Major equipment failure and alarm escalation failure led to damage to bodies in refrigerated storage. |
| Aug-19 | Pinderfields Hospital | 12086 | Accidental damage to a body | Procedural error led to accidental damage to a body. |
| Aug-19 | Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital | 12362 | Any incident not listed here that could result in adverse publicity that may lead to damage in public confidence | Human error led to the short term release of a body from the mortuary without appropriate authorisation. |
| Aug-19 | Worthing Hospital | 12286 | Discovery of an organ or tissue following post-mortem examination and release of body | Failure to follow procedure led to discovery of tissue following release of a body. |
| Aug-19 | Pinderfields Hospital | 12086 | Accidental damage to a body | Human error led to minor damage to a body. |
| Sep-19 | Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust - Central Hospitals | 12554 | Accidental damage to a body | Procedural error led to accidental damage of a body. |
| Sep-19 | Wednesfield Public Mortuary | 12285 | Major equipment failure | Equipment failure resulted in temporary transfer of bodies to alternative storage. |

| | | | | |
|--------|-------------------------------|-------|--|---|
| Sep-19 | Worcestershire Royal Hospital | 12079 | Accidental damage to a body | Human error led to minor damage to a body during a post mortem examination. |
| Sep-19 | Addenbrooke's Hospital | 12318 | Accidental damage to a body | Human error led to minor damage to the body during a post-mortem examination. |
| Oct-19 | Warrington Hospital | 12024 | Major equipment failure | Fridge/freezer failure resulted in transfer of bodies to another HTA licensed establishment |
| Oct-19 | The Christie | 30003 | Disposal or retention of an organ or tissue against the express wishes of the family | Human error led to retention of tissue. |
| Oct-19 | Ipswich Hospital | 30017 | Accidental damage to a body | Human error led to accidental damage to a body. |
| Oct-19 | Royal Victoria Infirmary | 12341 | Accidental damage to a body | Human error led to accidental damage to a body being placed into refrigerated storage. |

Further information

If you are unhappy with the way the HTA has handled your request for information in this case, you may in the first instance ask us for an internal review by writing to us at the above postal or email address.

If you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, you have the right to appeal directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision, at the address below. There is no charge for making an appeal.

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Telephone: 08456 30 60 60 or 01625 54 57 45

Website: www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]