

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

Date received	08/08/2022	Subject	SAER		
Passed to	Clinical Governance	Date passed	11/08/2022	Respond by	29/08/2022
Category	Press		FOI number	2022-315	

Question/s to be answered

1. Can you tell me how many serious adverse event reviews (SAER) there has been in the health board area.

NHS Shetland's Learning from Adverse Events through Reporting and Review Procedure, which is based on Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS) Learning from adverse events through reporting and review – A national framework for Scotland (2019), identifies serious adverse events as a Category 1 event.

HIS provide the following definition of a Category 1 event:

“events that may have contributed to or resulted in permanent harm, for example unexpected death, intervention required to sustain life, severe financial loss (£>1m), ongoing national adverse publicity (likely to be graded as major or extreme impact on NHS Scotland risk assessment matrix or category G, H or I on National Coordinating Council for Medical Error Reporting and Prevention (NCC MERP) index”

Since 1 January 2020, NHS Shetland, along with all other NHS Boards in Scotland, is required to report all significant adverse event reviews commissioned by the NHS Boards for a Category 1 adverse event to Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS).

Reviewing the local serious adverse event reviews held over the time period 2017 to 2022 NHS Shetland has identified 5 reviews that were conducted. Of these, there was 1 Category 1 adverse event since the requirement to report to HIS was introduced.

2. For the years 2017 to 2022 please.

See below

3. Can I have a breakdown for hospital, department and patient's age please?

See below

4. Can I also have any reports pertaining to the SAERs – redacted is fine.

See below

In accordance with FOISA s 16(1), NHS Shetland confirms that it holds the information requested but that it is exempt from disclosure under FOISA s 38(1)(b) as read with s (38)(2A) as the information constitutes personal data and disclosure would breach the confidentiality of the data subject(s). The reasons for this decision are that, due to the nature of these events and the small sample size identified, within an overall small geographical population, NHS Shetland believes providing a breakdown of the year of the adverse event,

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age of the person involved, the location of their care and/or any further information contained within the adverse event reports, even redacted, will result in patient identifiable information being released.