

Date: 18 May 2023

Dear Ms Gray,

Freedom of Information Request 04/2023 Internal Review

First of all I would like to apologise for the lateness of this response. It falls outside the normal timescale within which you should have expected a decision.

Having reviewed your original Freedom of Information Request (FOI 04/2023) and the response thereto I confirm that the FOI question has been appropriately answered. I have provided some additional background to the work of the Coroners Service.

Coroners enquire into deaths reported to them that appear to be unexpected or unexplained; as a result of violence; an accident; as a result of negligence; from any cause other than natural illness or disease; or other circumstances that require investigation. A Coroner will make all the necessary enquiries in order to establish the cause of death. Coroners deal with matters in accordance two main pieces of legislation - Coroners Act (NI) 1959 and the Coroners (Practice and Procedure) Rules (NI) 1963.

The Coroners Service does not hold information on all deaths that occur in Northern Ireland, only deaths that are reported to the Coroner, under the 1959 Act. These are carefully considered by the Coroner on a case by case basis and based on the individual circumstances of the case. The Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency has official responsibility for the collating death figures in Northern Ireland.

There are **three deaths** reported to the CSNI for the period requested relating to deaths that were reportable to the Coroner under the 1959 Act, where the **Covid-19 vaccination was mentioned in the formulation of the death**, and where the **Coroners case has been closed**.

The CSNI is unable to comment on cases, that have been reported under the 1959 Act where the investigation is ongoing, as CSNI is unable to extract by the cause of death until the Coroner has examined and carefully considered the case.

By way of further background, if it is felt by the reporting doctor to be relevant, covid vaccine status and, in particular, recent vaccination will be discussed and considered by the reporting doctor and the Coroner, where it arises, on a case-by-case basis. The Coroner will decide on the basis of the clinical evidence available, whether further investigation is required.

Yours sincerely

Information and Disclosure Management Team

----- Forwarded message -----

**From: LIU Information and Disclosure Management** <[InformationandDisclosureManagement@courtsni.gov.uk](mailto:InformationandDisclosureManagement@courtsni.gov.uk)>

Date: Mon, 20 Mar 2023, 10:02

Subject: Freedom of Information Request 04/2023

To: [REDACTED]

**Katy Gray**

***By Email***

Date: 20 March 2023

Dear Ms Gray

**Subject: Freedom of Information Request 04/2023**

Thank you for your request for information in relation to:

- 1 *How many investigations (harms caused by the covid 19 vaccines) have been done to date?*
- 2 *How many of the above suspected 48 plus deaths reported by the MHRA are currently under investigation?*
- 3 *When will all the above 48 plus investigations be completed?*

Your request was received on **20 February 2023** and has been handled under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

**We can confirm that the Coroners Service for Northern Ireland does hold the information you are seeking at part 1.**

The Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency has official responsibility for collating death figures in Northern Ireland. The figures extracted from the Coroners Service for Northern Ireland (CSNI) case management database record that three deaths were reported to CSNI for the period up to 28 February 2023 where Covid-19 vaccination was mentioned in the death formulation<sup>[1]</sup> and where the Coroner's case is closed.

**Relating to parts 2 and 3**

CSNI is unable to comment on ongoing investigations.

hope this information will be of assistance to you.

If you are dissatisfied with this response, you may ask the Information and Disclosure Management Team to conduct an internal review in relation to your request. The request for an internal review should be addressed to: Information and Disclosure Management Team, 1st Floor Laganside House, 23 - 25 Oxford Street, Belfast, BT1 3LA within two months of the date of this response. If following the internal review you remain dissatisfied with the NICTS treatment of your request then you are entitled to make a complaint to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner's address is Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Please contact us with any queries you have by quoting the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely,

### **Information and Disclosure Management Team**

Laganside House | 1<sup>st</sup> Floor | 23-27 Oxford Street | Belfast BT1 3LA | Email:  
[InformationandDisclosureManagement@courtsni.gov.uk](mailto:InformationandDisclosureManagement@courtsni.gov.uk)

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[1] that is, the cause of death recorded as the disease or condition leading directly to the death and any significant condition contributing to but not related to the direct cause of death.

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