

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 6934

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Freedom of Information Act 2000

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to RIDDOR Reporting of COVID-19.

You asked:

- 1. accidents or incidents at work which have, or could have, led to the release or escape of coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) (dangerous occurrences).*
- 2. a person at work (a worker) having been diagnosed as having COVID-19 attributed to an occupational exposure to coronavirus (a case of disease).*
- 3. the death of a worker as a result of occupational exposure to coronavirus (a work-related death due to exposure to a biological agent).*

Trust response:

1. 0

2. The HSE's guidance on reporting COVID occupational exposure as a RIDDOR reportable disease is as follows;

When deciding if a report is required, the responsible person must make a judgement, based on the information available, as to whether or not a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 is likely to have been caused by an occupational exposure, i.e. whether or not there is reasonable evidence that a work-related exposure is the likely cause of the disease. Whilst this should be considered on a case by case basis, there are some general principles which can assist in making this judgement.

There must be reasonable evidence linking the nature of the person's work with an increased risk of becoming exposed to coronavirus.

Therefore, the Trust took the stance that Healthcare workers undertaking work activities with known COVID positive patients would constitute as reportable.

Answer - 1015 (Period March 2020 to Feb 2021)

3. 0