

Email: foi.tsdft@nhs.net
Our Ref: TSD10017

2 October 2026

Dear Sir/Madam

Request for Information

We are writing to confirm that we have now completed our search for the information you requested.

A copy of the information is below:

For each month in the past 2 years (Aug 2023 - Aug 2025), please let me know:

1) The Number of people's bodies that were moved between hospitals' mortuaries

Zero, as we only have 1 mortuary within our HTA Licence.

2) The Median and Maximum number of days for a body to be released from a hospital mortuary to a funeral director

The Trust can readily access records from November 2024 onwards, however earlier records are held on a legacy system, and the Trust estimates that locating, retrieving and extracting them would exceed the 18-hour appropriate limit. This information for these date periods is therefore exempt under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Month, Year	Maximum stay	Median stay
November 2024	60 days	12 days
December 2024	63 days	9 days
January 2025	80 days	12 days
February 2025	51 days	11 days
March 2025	73 days	12 days
April 2025	59 days	11 days
May 2025	80 days	12 days
June 2025	30 days	8 days
July 2025	61 days	10 days
August 2025	34 days	8 days

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If you wish to discuss any of the above, please contact us, quoting the FOI reference number above.

If you are unhappy with the way in which we have handled your request, please contact the Data Protection and Freedom of Information Lead in the first instance. If you wish to make a formal complaint, you should write to our Complaints Manager at Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust, First Floor Bowyer Building, Torbay Hospital, Torquay TQ2 7AA or by email to tsdft.feedback@nhs.net

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint or the internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner will only make a decision once you have exhausted the complaints and/or internal review process provided by us. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or through this link <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/>

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Team