ANNEX A

FOI DOF/2026-0686

Request

You requested the following information on 28 October 2026.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request the following recorded information for Northern Ireland for each calendar year from 2008 to date. If information is not held for the full period, please provide it from the earliest year held. Please state whether figures are by year of registration or year of death.

1. The number of registered deaths where any of the following ICD-10 codes was recorded anywhere on the death certificate, in Part I or Part II. For each year, please show separately the number where the code appeared in Part I and the number where it appeared in Part II, and the underlying cause code assigned to these deaths:

   a. T78.0 – anaphylactic shock due to adverse food reaction
   b. T78.1 – other adverse food reactions, not elsewhere classified
   c. T78.2 – anaphylactic shock, unspecified
   d. T78.3 – angioneurotic oedema
   e. T78.4 – allergy, unspecified
   f. T80.5 – anaphylactic shock due to serum
   g. T88.6 – anaphylactic shock due to adverse effect of correct drug or medicament
   h. T63.4 – toxic effect of venom of other arthropods (including bees, wasps and hornets)

2. Of the deaths in question 1, the number with an underlying cause of X23 (contact with hornets, wasps and bees) or in the range Y40–Y59 (drugs, medicaments and biological substances causing adverse effects in therapeutic use).

3. Where the certificate text is held electronically and can be searched without manual review of individual records, the number of deaths where the terms “anaphylaxis”, “anaphylactic” or “allergic reaction” appear but none of the codes above was assigned.

4. For the whole period combined, the deaths in question 1 broken down separately (not cross-tabulated) by:

   a. age band (0–4, 5–11, 12–17, 18–24, 25–64, 65 and over)
   b. sex

c. place of death (hospital, home, other)
d. Health and Social Care Trust area of residence

5. For the deaths in question 1, the number of people who were resident in Northern Ireland and the number who were not. Please also tell me whether NISRA holds, or receives from other registration authorities, information on Northern Ireland residents whose deaths from these causes occurred and were registered outside Northern Ireland, and if so, provide the same figures for them.

I am requesting aggregate, anonymised figures only. I am happy for small numbers to be suppressed or combined, for example into five-year periods, to protect the families of those who died. Please provide the data in spreadsheet format (Excel or CSV) where possible.

DoF response

I can confirm the Department holds this information.

The Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) produce statistics based on the cause of death information recorded on death certificates and collected by the General Register Office (GRO) during the death registration process.

NISRA holds the information for all parts of the request. However, due to the small counts and the associated potential for identification of individuals from details related to specific deaths through combining data across the parts of the request, the data has been provided combined across three-year periods.

Data has been compiled by searching death registrations for the noted ICD-10 codes and conducting manual searches for the term “anaphylaxis”, “anaphylactic” or “allergic reaction”.

Tables have been provided in an attached Excel file, as requested. The Excel file contains six tables which cover responses to the five elements of the request as identified above:

1. Table 1 provides the number of registered deaths where any of the requested ICD-10 codes was recorded anywhere on the death certificate, with separate counts for Part I or Part II.

2. Table 2 notes the number of deaths with an underlying cause of X23 (contact with hornets, wasps and bees) or in the range Y40–Y59 (drugs, medicaments and biological substances causing adverse effects in therapeutic use).

3. There was one death registered during the period for which the terms “anaphylaxis”, “anaphylactic” or “allergic reaction” appear but none of the codes above was assigned.

4. For the whole period combined, table 3 provides a breakdown by the requested age bands. There were no deaths registered for those aged under 12 across the period. Table 4 provides a breakdown by sex, table 5 by place of death (hospital, home, other) and table 6 by Health and Social Care Trust.

5. Of the 38 cases, 37 were usually resident in NI, 1 was not. I can confirm that NISRA does not receive or hold information on Northern Ireland residents who died elsewhere.