



Ref: FOIA Reference 2021/22-251

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Email [foi@uhn.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@uhn.nhs.uk)

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 4<sup>th</sup> August 2021 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Maternity wards

As of 1<sup>st</sup> November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHNM) manages two hospital sites – Royal Stoke University Hospital, and County Hospital (Stafford). Therefore the response below is for the two sites combined from that date where appropriate.

**Q1 Please provide for each delivery suite/labour ward/birthing unit (or otherwise-named unit where babies are delivered) within your Trust the number of times it has gone on divert - i.e. needed to send incoming patients to a different hospital to receive care due to insufficient staff numbers (please note this can be another hospital within the same Trust). I would like this information per month from 1 January 2019 to 31 July 2021.**

A1 We are unable to provide the information you require in the requested format as to release this data could lead to the identification of the person(s) involved due to the low numbers involved, and would breach the Trusts obligations under Data Protection Act 2018. Accordingly, this aspect of your request is exempt from disclosure under the terms of Section 40(2) of the FOI Act. *Personal information*. However as the Trust is committed to openness and transparency we can band the numbers as being <5

This exemption is an absolute exemption and therefore no consideration of the public interest test is needed.

Information provided based on requirement to divert due to midwifery staffing levels

MONTH	NUMBER REPORTED
JANUARY 2019	0
FEBRUARY 2019	0
MARCH 2019	0
APRIL 2019	0
MAY 2019	0

JUNE 2019	0
JULY 2019	0
AUGUST 2019	0
SEPTEMBER 2019	0
OCTOBER 2019	0
NOVEMBER 2019	0
DECEMBER 2019	0
JANUARY 2020	0
FEBRUARY 2020	0
MARCH 2020	0
APRIL 2020	0
MAY 2020	0
JUNE 2020	0
JULY 2020	0
AUGUST 2020	0
SEPTEMBER 2020	0
OCTOBER 2020	0
NOVEMBER 2020	0
DECEMBER 2020	0
JANUARY 2021	0
FEBRUARY 2021	0
MARCH 2021	0
APRIL 2021	0
MAY 2021	0
JUNE 2021	0

JULY 2021	<5
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**Q2 Please provide for each maternity unit in your Trust (i.e. unit providing ante-natal and post-natal services) the number of times that unit has been recorded as having under-template or below safe ward staffing levels. I would like this information per month from 1 January 2019 to 31 July 2021.**

A2 Target is 1:28 midwife to birth ratio. See below: indicates in amber and red where midwife to birth ration has not been within the target rage. Green indicated where staffing has been within the target range. 1 to 1 care during labour has been achieved throughout this period

UHNH Maternity Dashboard 2020/21																			Arrows compare to same quarter in 2015					
Ref	Indicator	Narrative / comments	Target	13/14 National Average	18/19 Trust Average	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	YTD
WS	Midwife to Birth ratio	Safe staffing/ Birthrate +	01:28			1:30	01:30	01:30	01:30	01:28	01:32	01:29	01:27	01:27	01:25	01:24	01:25	01:25	01:25	1:30↑	1:30↑	1:27 6↓		

\*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

***UHNH NHS Trust is a public sector body and governed by EU law. FOI requestors should note that any new Trust requirements over the EU threshold will be subject to these regulations and will be advertised for open competition accordingly.***

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An anonymised copy of this request can be found on the Trust’s disclosure log, please note that all requests can be found at the following link: <http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/aboutus/Statutory-Policies-and-Procedures/Pages/Freedom-of-Information-Disclosure-Log.aspx>

This letter confirms the completion of this request. A log of this request and a copy of this letter will be held by the Trust.

If you have any queries related to the response provided please in the first instance contact my office.

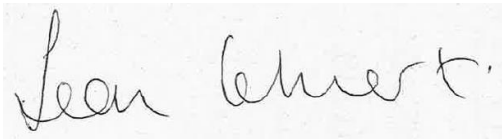
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust’s FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO) and request an assessment of the manner in which the Trust has managed your request.

The Information Commissioner may be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF or via [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk).

If following review of the responses I can be of any further assistance please contact my secretary on 01782 671612.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature reads "Jean Lehnert" in a cursive script.

Jean Lehnert  
**Data, Security & Protection Manager**