



Ref: FOIA Reference 2024/25-380

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024

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

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 10th September 2024 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding maternity

As of 1<sup>st</sup> November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHM) 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 For each year from 2021-2023 inclusive [calendar or financial depending on the data is collected], please provide the number of: Maternal deaths, as defined as the death of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy**

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.*

2021 <5  
2022 <5  
2023 <5

**Q2 The number of babies being born with confirmed or suspected Hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy.**

A2 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.*

Note:

HIE1 – mild  
HIE 2 – moderate  
HIE 3 – severe

**2021**

HIE 1 – 0  
HIE 2 – 5  
HIE 3 – <5

**2022**

HIE 1 – <5  
HIE 2 – <5  
HIE 3 – 6

**2023**

HIE 1 - <5  
HIE 2 - <5  
HIE 3 – <5

**Q3 The number of stillbirths, intrapartum death, and early neonatal deaths.**

**Please break down the data by year and by category.**

**If possible, please break down maternal death statistics by age and ethnicity of mother.**

**If possible, please provide the listed reason / explanation for each maternal death, neonatal death, intrapartum death, and stillbirth.**

A3 Includes all activity where delivery marked as 'Live' & / or Still birth (Non registerable deliveries not included)

Where Deliveries marked as 'Live' date of death is taken from patient administration system, not all deaths may have occurred under UHNM care (community/another trust)

Mother Ages grouped in lots of '10' e.g.: 20 – 29 at point of delivery

Reasons for deaths would require detailed clinical look at all patient notes- section 12 exemption as detailed below:

I can neither confirm nor deny whether the information you have requested is held by the Trust in its entirety. This is because the information requested in this question is not held centrally, but may be recorded in health records (172). In order to confirm whether this information is held we would therefore have to individually access all these health records within the Trust and extract the information where it is present. We therefore estimate that complying with your request is exempt under section 12 of the FOI Act: *cost of compliance is excessive*. The section 12 exemption applies when it is estimated a request will take in excess of 18 hours to

complete. We estimate that accessing and reviewing all these health records and then extracting relevant information would take longer than the 18 hours allowed for.

In addition to the section 12 exemption the Trust is also applying section 14 (1) exemption: *oppressive burden on the authority*

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.*

Row Labels	2021		2022		2023	
	Still Birth	Early Neonatal death	Still Birth	Early Neonatal death	Still Birth	Early Neonatal death
A - White: British	15	27	17	18	19	11
<=19		<5	<5	<5		
20-29	10	11	6	7	11	6
30-39	<5	13	9	9	6	<5
40-49	<5			<5	<5	<5
B - White: Irish				<5	<5	
20-29					<5	
30-39				<5		
C - White: Any other background		<5				<5
20-29						<5
30-39		<5				<5
D - Mixed: White and Black Caribbean		<5		<5		
20-29			<5	<5		
30-39		<5				
F - Mixed: White and Asian		<5		<5		<5
20-29						<5
30-39		<5		<5		
G - Mixed: Any other background			<5	<5	<5	
20-29			<5			
30-39				<5	<5	
H - Asian: Indian	<5			<5		
30-39	<5			<5		
40-49				<5		
J - Asian: Pakistani	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5
20-29		<5	<5		<5	<5

30-39	<5			<5		<5
K - Asian: Bangladeshi		<5			<5	
20-29					<5	
30-39		<5				
L - Asian: Any other background				<5	<5	
20-29				<5		
30-39					<5	
N - Black: African		<5	<5	<5		
20-29		<5	<5			
30-39		<5	<5	<5		
P - Black: Any other background			<5		<5	<5
20-29			<5			
30-39					<5	
R - Chinese						<5
30-39						<5
S - Any other ethnic group		<5		<5	<5	
20-29					<5	
30-39		<5		<5		
Z - Not stated	<5	5	<5	<5	<5	5
<=19						<5
20-29				<5		
30-39	<5	5	<5		<5	<5

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

***UHNM 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).

Yours,



**Rachel Montinaro**  
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records