



Ref: FOIA Reference 2021/22-149

Date: 17th June 2021

Email foi@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 9th June 2021 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding maternity.

As of 1st 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 I write under the Freedom of Information Act to request the following information with regards to the Trust's maternity unit:

On how many occasions was the maternity unit closed to new admissions in 2020/21?

A1 None, however at the County Site the Free Standing Midwifery Birth unit was closed due to covid and staffing reasons. The service remains suspended as we have vacancies and need to review the staffing model. It is part of a wider review of maternity services across Staffordshire for transformation which started pre Covid and is being revived with consultation events planned. Bookings and admissions to maternity services have continued as it is only the birth element which is currently not offered. All women who had planned to birth at FMBU have access to RSUH services

Q2 For each such occasion, please state the duration of and the reason for the closure.

A2 Not applicable- County site = 20th March 2020 - on-going

*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.

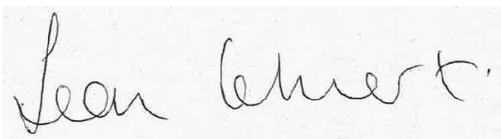
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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

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

Yours,



Jean Lehnert
Data, Security & Protection Manager