

Ref: FOIA Reference 2022/23-501

Date: 5th January 2023

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 29th November 2022 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding C-sections

On 2nd December 2022 you contacted us via email as you had made an amendment to your request:

1. 'Please release figures detailing the number of caesarean sections carried out by the Trust between 1st June 2021 and 30th November 2022. Please categorise the data by elective, planned and emergency sections per month, **I would like the data in these categories as the actual numbers and as a percentage of the total births that month.** '

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 Please release figures detailing the number of caesarean sections carried out by the Trust between 1st June 2021 and 30th November 2022. Please categorise the data by elective, planned and emergency sections per month.
Amended: I would like the data in these categories as the actual numbers and as a percentage of the total births that month**

A1 See below: Figures provided below include UHNM Documented registerable births (baby volume) Based on K2 documented Caesarean priority

CS Priority	2021							2022										
	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Category 1 (Immediate Threat to Life of Woman or Fetus)																		
# Births	18	13	20	24	21	12	13	15	18	17	17	16	13	16	10	20	19	14
% Births	3.5%	2.5%	3.6%	4.2%	4.0%	2.3%	2.4%	3.2%	3.8%	3.3%	3.4%	3.3%	2.7%	2.9%	1.9%	3.8%	3.6%	2.5%
Category 2 (Threat of Maternal or Fetal Compromise)																		
# Births	69	71	77	79	66	61	73	63	62	73	75	69	58	80	74	78	75	80
% Births	13.2%	13.4%	13.9%	14.0%	12.5%	11.5%	13.7%	13.3%	13.1%	14.2%	14.9%	14.1%	12.2%	14.4%	13.8%	14.9%	14.4%	14.4%
Category 3 (No Threat of Compromise but Needs Early Delivery)																		
# Births	33	36	33	28	27	30	21	18	31	33	32	22	27	29	21	29	24	35
% Births	6.3%	6.8%	6.0%	5.0%	5.1%	5.7%	3.9%	3.8%	6.6%	6.4%	6.3%	4.5%	5.7%	5.2%	3.9%	5.5%	4.6%	6.3%
Category 4 (Timing to Suit Woman or Clinicians)																		
# Births	92	87	80	74	70	88	73	67	64	67	67	67	61	85	82	79	81	84
% Births	17.7%	16.5%	14.5%	13.1%	13.2%	16.6%	13.7%	14.1%	13.6%	13.0%	13.3%	13.7%	12.9%	15.3%	15.2%	15.1%	15.5%	15.1%

Q2 Please release figures detailing the number of still births and neonatal deaths at the Trust between 1st June 2021 and 30th November 2022 categorised by c-section or vaginal delivery.

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.

UHNM Documented birth volumes excludes non-registerable deliveries (non-live <24 weeks gestation)

CS Priority	Antepartum Stillbirth (>=24wks)	Early Neonatal Death	Intrapartum Stillbirth (>=24wks)
Caesarean	<5	<5	0
Non-Caesarean	30	<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.

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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.uhn.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,



Leah Carlisle
Head of Data, Security & Protection/ Data Protection Officer