

Royal Stoke University Hospital

Ref: FOIA Reference 2020/21-297

Data, Security and Protection
Newcastle Road
Stoke-on-Trent
Staffordshire
ST4 6QG

Date: 30th October 2020

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 17th October 2020 (received into our office 19th October) requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding neonatal and maternity-previous FOI reference 166-202 – Q2 answered 13th October 2020.

On 19th October 2020 we advised you via email that as we had asked for clarification on 11th August and had not received this that your request 166-2021 was completed and closed, and that this now represented a new request.

On 11th August 2020 we contacted you via email as we required further clarification, we asked: What you are specifically referring to as NND?- (Neonatal death is up to 28 days of life. There is a range of deaths which would fit under this umbrella. There are babies who are in-born and die on the neonatal unit, babies who are delivered elsewhere and transferred over to us as ex-utero transfers who may pass away here, babies who get transferred to other neonatal units/PICU and pass away there, babies who get discharged from NNU/postnatal wards and then may come back into paediatrics being unwell/cot death.)

As of 6th October 2020 UHNM has not received any clarification from you therefore we are unable to answer Q1.

On 17th October 2020 (received into our office 19th October) you replied via email with the following: *"Please provide all neonatal deaths in born at the i.e. not transferred in"*

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 provide details of the number of neonatal and maternity deaths and neonatal and maternity serious incidents for the last ten years or as many previous years as can be provided. For example, if you only have figures pertaining to the last year, please provide these. If you have figures for up to ten years prior i.e. to 2010 please provide these.

A1 We are unable to provide some of 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 or by banding the figure as a total.

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

At UHNM there have been 130 baby deaths in the neonatal unit- from April 2010 to present date.

14 Maternity deaths over the last 10 years (10.01.2010 – to date)

See below for maternity serious incidents for the last ten years-

Year	NICU	Obstetrics
2010	<5	13
2011	<5	26
2012	0	21
2013	0	15
2014	<5	24
2015	0	11
2016	<5	5
2017	<5	<5
2018	<5	12
2019	<5	6
2020	<5	7

*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.

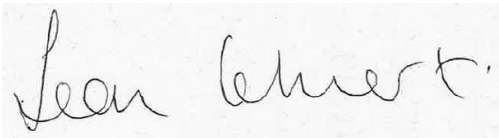
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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