



Ref: FOIA Reference 2022/23-363

Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022

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

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 3rd October 2022 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Neonatal intensive care.

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 I am making a freedom of information request for the following:**

**How many admissions for babies (both new-born and in utero transfers) have you had to decline for your level 3 neonatal intensive care unit in the following three financial years: 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22**

A1 See below:

April 19 – March 20 = 97

April 20 – March 21 = 40 –note there are some months missing as there was either no requests for these months or the information wasn't documented for November and December

April 21 – March 22 = 93

**Q2 Of those babies declined, how many were due to lack of a suitable bed in each of the following three financial years: 2019-20, 2020-21, and 2021-22**

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.*

See below: note we changed the way this was reported, therefore some data is incomplete

April 19 - March 20 – <5 babies have comments referring to capacity

April 20 – March 21 – <5 comment stating due to occupancy

This data going forward from April 2021 has been captured differently to the previous years

April 21 – March 22 – showing as 50 babies due to capacity, some data missing

**Q3 Of those babies declined, what is the furthest away the patient had been referred from in each of the following three financial years: 2019-20, 2020-21, and 2021-22**

A3 See below:

April 19 – March 20 - Scarborough

April 20 – March 21 - Northampton

April 21 – March – 22 - Hull

**Q4 Of those babies declined, what is the furthest away the patient was eventually sent in each of the following three financial years: 2019-20, 2020-21, and 2021-22**

A4 Information not held

**Q5 What is the furthest away the Trust has accepted a referral for a baby (either new-born or in utero transfer) to its level 3 neonatal intensive care unit from in each of the following three financial years: 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22**

A5 See below:

April 19 – March 20 – Northampton

April 20 – March 21 - Worcester

April 21 – March – 22 - Worcester

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

***UHM 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.uhm.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,



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