

Our Ref: NG/RM/25252
Date: 8th August 2025

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Reception: 0300 123 1535

Dear

Freedom of Information Act Request

I am writing in response to your e-mail of the 17th July 2025. Your request has been processed using the Trust's procedures for the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

Requested information:

I am a freelance journalist looking into maternal healthcare in UK health trusts and boards a year on from a report [by the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Birth Trauma](#).

I would be grateful for responses by email to the following 13 questions, which I am sending to every UK non-specialist health trust and board.

I appreciate it is a long list of questions, and it's quite possible not all of them will be relevant to your organisation. I also appreciate that data going back 10 years will not always be available, as your organisation may have been formed more recently than that. In this case, I would be grateful for the data stretching back as far as is possible.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions at all.

1. How many vacancies do you currently have for a) midwives; b) obstetricians? (And how many members of staff do you currently have in both those roles?) **N/A**
2. What is the number of stillbirths and neonatal deaths recorded in your trust/board in each of the past 10 years? And what was the recorded ethnicity of those who died, if the data is available? **N/A**
3. How many live births were recorded at your trust/board in each of the past 10 years? **N/A**
4. What is the number of maternal deaths recorded in your trust/board in each of the past 10 years? And what was the recorded ethnicity of those who died? **N/A**
5. How many medical negligence suits have arisen from incidents in your maternity department in each of the past 10 years? How many resulted in a payment being made, and how much was paid out in each of the past 10 years? **N/A**

6. How many third- and fourth-degree tears have you recorded for each of the past 10 years? **N/A**
7. What are your current rates of forceps use, if you keep data on this? **N/A**
8. What are your current rates of ventouse assisted deliveries, if you keep data on this? **N/A**
9. How many emergency caesarean sections have you carried out in each of the past 10 years? **N/A**
10. How many Maternal Request Caesareans were made to staff in each of the past 10 years, and how many were approved? **N/A**
11. How much did your trust/board pay for use of interpreters in its maternity department in each of the past 10 years? **N/A**
12. How many people have received treatment as part of any MMHS (Maternal Mental Health Service) in the past year? **46**
13. How many people are on the waiting list to receive treatment from the MMHS right now? **5**

And how long is the average waiting time for treatment? **24.8 days (based on current waiters)**

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review of the management of your request. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Dr Buki Adeyemo, Chief Executive, North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare Trust, Trust Headquarters, Lawton House, Bellringer Road, Trentham, ST4 8HH. If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely



Nicola Griffiths
Deputy Director of Governance