

Title:
Midwifery Red flag Incidents and diverted deliveries

Reference Number: RDF2218-24
Date of Response: 04/04/24

Further to your Freedom of Information Act request, please find the Trust's response(s) below:

I am writing to request the following from your organisation under the Freedom of Information Act 2000:

For the calendar years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023, please provide:

1. *The number of midwifery "red flag" incidents) identified in your maternity departments, broken down by year.*

Trust response: Please see table below. Please note, the figures are for the Trusts Eastern service.

Northern service have not held the information in a reportable format, although the service moving forward from this year will start this.

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
423	574	589	504	720

2. *If your organisation has other "red flag" incidents agreed locally, please specify what they are and how many occurred per year.*

Answer: Trust response: No other red flag incidents are agreed locally – only the ones provided above.

3. *Of these, please specify how many of these incidents (as a proportion - i.e., 65%, and the raw number) related to staffing levels.*

Answer: Not applicable. No other red flags are agreed locally.

4. *Please also specify the number of times patients needed to be diverted to other trusts to deliver their baby, broken down by year.*

5. *Of those, please break down (again as a proportion and raw number) how many diverts were*

a) *due to a lack of staff*

b) *for other reasons, please provide details*

Answer: In response to questions 4 and 5, the Trust can neither confirm nor deny that the information requested is held and issues a refusal notice for this request under Section 17 of the Act. The following exemptions also apply:

Section 40 (2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000

The information requested is not held in a reportable format. If held, the information requested would be held within patients own medical records. It is not expected and inappropriate for the Trust to review individual patient records to obtain/produce the information (if held). In this instance the FOI question is exempt under Section 40 (2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (patients' personal data). as it is in breach of Principle 1 of the UK GDPR

Section 12 - Cost of Compliance:

The Trust applies Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act. Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 Section 12(1) and defined in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004, a public authority is not obliged to comply with a request for information if it estimates that the cost of complying would exceed the appropriate limit. The limit of £450 represents the estimated cost of one person spending two and a half days in determining whether the Trust holds the information, locating, retrieving, and extracting that information.

To provide you with the information requested (if held) would require the manual extraction and manipulation of information from various sources. To carry out this work would exceed the appropriate cost limit as set out in Section 12 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is therefore exempt.

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