

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 23-071

22 February 2023

By Email

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trust's response is as follows:

- We can confirm that we do hold the information you are requesting

When providing responses to the questions, please break down the figures for each hospital within your Hospital Trust. This may be best achieved by providing separate response sheets.

For the time period 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022, if you do not have figures available for the whole period, please provide the most up-to-date figures and state the period they cover.

Hospital Trust

University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust

Hospital

St Michael's Hospital and Weston General Hospital

LIVE BIRTHS

**1. How many live births were there at your hospital Trust in the following periods?
(Please exclude home births from this number and detail them separately in brackets.)**

- **1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?** 4974 (126)
- **1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?** 4669 (144)
- **1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?** 4876 (124)
- **1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?** 3400 (89)

STILL BIRTHS

2a. How many stillbirths were there at your hospital Trust in the same periods?

Stillbirth is defined as occurring when a baby is born dead after 24 completed weeks of pregnancy.

- **1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020? 11**
- **1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021? 13**
- **1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022? 19**
- **1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022? 13**

2b. Of these stillbirths (in answer 2a) how many were Intrapartum stillbirths?

Intrapartum stillbirth is defined as when a baby was thought to be alive at the start of labour but was born, beyond 37 weeks of gestation, with no signs of life.

- **1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020? ***
- **1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021? ***
- **1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022? ***
- **1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022? ***

Please note: Where the figures are between 1 and 5, this has been denoted by *. Due to the low numbers, we have considered that there is the potential for individuals to be identified from the information provided, when considered with other information that may also be in the public domain. In our view disclosure of these low figures would breach one of the Data Protection Principles set out in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act, namely Principle 1. The Trust therefore finds that the Section 40(2) exemption contained within the Freedom of information Act 2000 is engaged. (Section 40 is the exemption for personal information).

2c. Of the Intrapartum stillbirths (in answer 2b) how many were referred to HSIB?

- **1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020? 0**
- **1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021? ***
- **1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022? ***
- **1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022? ***

Please note: Where the figures are between 1 and 5, this has been denoted by *. Due to the low numbers, we have considered that there is the potential for individuals to be identified from the information provided, when considered with other information that may also be in the public domain. In our view disclosure of these low figures would breach one of the Data Protection Principles set out in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act, namely Principle 1. The Trust therefore finds that the Section 40(2) exemption contained within the Freedom of information Act 2000 is engaged. (Section 40 is the exemption for personal information).

2d. Of the Intrapartum stillbirths referred to HSIB (in answer 2c), how many did HSIB investigate?

- **1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020? 0**
- **1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021? ***
- **1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022? ***

• **1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022? 0**

Please note: Where the figures are between 1 and 5, this has been denoted by *. Due to the low numbers, we have considered that there is the potential for individuals to be identified from the information provided, when considered with other information that may also be in the public domain. In our view disclosure of these low figures would breach one of the Data Protection Principles set out in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act, namely Principle 1. The Trust therefore finds that the Section 40(2) exemption contained within the Freedom of information Act 2000 is engaged. (Section 40 is the exemption for personal information).

NEONATAL DEATHS

3a. In the same periods, how many Neonatal deaths were there at your hospital Trust? Neonatal deaths are defined as a baby that dies within 28 days of birth of any cause or, for the purposes of this process, a baby who dies that has not left hospital since birth.

If a baby was born at your hospital Trust and was transferred to another hospital and died at another hospital Trust, please exclude them from these numbers and specify the number separately in brackets.

- **1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?**
- **1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?**
- **1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?**
- **1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?**

Please note, the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty-day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

3b. Of these Neonatal deaths (in answer 3a) how many were ‘early Neonatal deaths’? Early Neonatal deaths are defined as a baby that dies within the first week of life (0-6 days) of any cause.

If a baby was born at your hospital Trust and was transferred to another hospital and died at another hospital Trust, please exclude them from these numbers and specify the number separately in brackets.

- **1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?**
- **1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?**
- **1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?**
- **1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?**

Please note, the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty-day

period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

4a. Of the Neonatal deaths (in answer 3a) at your hospital Trust, in how many cases was the medical cause identified?

- **1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?**
- **1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?**
- **1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?**
- **1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?**

Please note, the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty-day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

4b. Of the Early Neonatal deaths (in answer 3b) at your hospital Trust, in how many cases was the medical cause identified?

- **1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?**
- **1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?**
- **1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?**
- **1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?**

Please note, the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty-day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

5a. Of the Neonatal deaths at your hospital Trust, where the medical cause was identified (in answer 4a), how many were referred to the Coroner?

- **1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?**
- **1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?**
- **1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?**
- **1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?**

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5b. Of the Early Neonatal deaths at your hospital Trust, where the medical cause was identified (in answer 4b), how many were referred to the Coroner?

- **1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?**
- **1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?**
- **1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?**
- **1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?**

Please note, the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty-day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

6a. Of the Neonatal deaths at your hospital Trust, in how many cases was the medical cause not identified?

- **1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?**
- **1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?**
- **1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?**
- **1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?**

Please note, the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty-day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

6b. Of the Early Neonatal deaths at your hospital Trust, in how many cases was the medical cause not identified?

- **1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?**
- **1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?**
- **1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?**
- **1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?**

Please note, the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty-day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

7a. Of the Neonatal deaths at your hospital Trust, where the medical cause was not

identified, how many were referred to the Coroner?

- **1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?**
- **1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?**
- **1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?**
- **1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?**

Please note, the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty-day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

7b. Of the Early Neonatal deaths at your hospital Trust, where the medical cause was not identified, how many were referred to the Coroner?

- **1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?**
- **1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?**
- **1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?**
- **1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?**

Please note, the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty-day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

8a. Of the Early Neonatal deaths (in answer 3b) at your hospital Trust, how many were referred to HSIB?

- **1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?**
- **1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?**
- **1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?**
- **1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?**

Please note, the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty-day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

8b Of the Early Neonatal deaths referred to HSIB (in answer 8a), how many did HSIB investigate?

- **1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?**
- **1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?**
- **1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?**
- **1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?**

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HYPOXIC ISCHEMIC ENCEPHALOPATHY

9a. Of the Neonatal deaths at your hospital Trust, in how many cases was the cause of death recorded as Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy?

- **1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?**
- **1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?**
- **1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?**
- **1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?**

Please note, the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty-day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

9b. Of the Neonatal deaths at your hospital Trust, where the cause of death was recorded as Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy, how many were referred to the coroner?

- **1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?**
- **1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?**
- **1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?**
- **1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?**

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9c. Of the Neonatal deaths at your hospital Trust, where the cause of death was recorded as Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy (in answer 9a), how many were referred

to HSIB?

- 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?
- 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?
- 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?
- 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?

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9d. Of the Neonatal deaths at your hospital Trust, where the cause of death was recorded as Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy (in answer 9c), how many did HSIB investigate?

- 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?
- 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?
- 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?
- 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?

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Please provide a copy of your hospital Trust's current policy in respect of referring Neonatal deaths to a coroner and advise the date it was last updated.

Please see the attached documents.

MATERNAL DEATHS

10a. How many maternal deaths were there at your hospital Trust in the same periods?

Maternal deaths are defined as the death of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of the end of the pregnancy from any cause related to or aggravated by the pregnancy or its management, and not from accidental or incidental causes. Excludes death by suicide.

- 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020? 0
- 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021? *

- **1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022? ***
- **1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022? ***

Please note: Where the figures are between 1 and 5, this has been denoted by *. Due to the low numbers, we have considered that there is the potential for individuals to be identified from the information provided, when considered with other information that may also be in the public domain. In our view disclosure of these low figures would breach one of the Data Protection Principles set out in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act, namely Principle 1. The Trust therefore finds that the Section 40(2) exemption contained within the Freedom of information Act 2000 is engaged. (Section 40 is the exemption for personal information).

10b. In how many cases of maternal death was a Neonatal death also recorded?

- **1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020? 0**
- **1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021? ***
- **1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022? 0**
- **1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022? 0**

Please note: Where the figures are between 1 and 5, this has been denoted by *. Due to the low numbers, we have considered that there is the potential for individuals to be identified from the information provided, when considered with other information that may also be in the public domain. In our view disclosure of these low figures would breach one of the Data Protection Principles set out in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act, namely Principle 1. The Trust therefore finds that the Section 40(2) exemption contained within the Freedom of information Act 2000 is engaged. (Section 40 is the exemption for personal information).

10c. In how many cases of maternal death where a Neonatal death also recorded, was the death an Early Neonatal death?

- **1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020? 0**
- **1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021? 0**
- **1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022? 0**
- **1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022? 0**

11. Of the maternal deaths at your hospital Trust (in answer 10a), how many were referred to HSIB?

- **1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020? 0**
- **1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021? ***
- **1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022? ***
- **1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022? ***

Please note: Where the figures are between 1 and 5, this has been denoted by *. Due to the low numbers, we have considered that there is the potential for individuals to be identified from the information provided, when considered with other information that may also be in the public domain. In our view disclosure of these low figures would breach one of the Data Protection Principles set out in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act, namely Principle 1. The Trust therefore finds that the Section 40(2) exemption contained within the Freedom of information Act 2000 is engaged. (Section 40 is the exemption for personal information).

Please note: This does not include data from Weston General Hospital pre-merger (before April 2020) due to the data being held on a different system and would involve a manual trawl - Please note, the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty-day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

This concludes our response. We trust that you find this helpful, but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if we can be of any further assistance.

If, after that, you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. 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:

Data Protection Officer
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust
Trust Headquarters
Marlborough Street
Bristol
BS1 3NU

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

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

Publication

Please note that this letter and the information included/attached will be published on our website as part of the Trust's Freedom of Information Publication Log. This is because information disclosed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act is disclosed to the public, not just to the individual making the request. We will remove any personal information (such as your name, email and so on) from any information we make public to protect your personal information.

To view the Freedom of Information Act in full please click [here](#).

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust