

## **Freedom of Information Request**

**Ref: 23-397**

23 June 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

**Please provide data for each question for the years 2018 - 2022, broken down by calendar year (i.e. 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022).**

### **1. Please provide the number of term stillbirths (37 weeks or more) at your trust**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
<b>Number of Term Stillbirths</b>	15	*	*	*	*

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).

### **2. Please provide the review process for each stillbirth recorded, e.g.. X number of PMRTs, X number of SIIs, X number referred to the coroner. If relevant, please include the number that led to no review.**

<b>Review Process for the term Stillbirths)</b>	<b>PMRT (no. of completed reviews and reports)</b>	<b>SII</b>	<b>Referral to Coroner</b>
<b>2018</b>	*	0	0
<b>2019</b>	*	0	0

<b>2020</b>	*	0	0
<b>2021</b>	*	*	0
<b>2022</b>	*	*	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).

**3. In any reviews done following a stillbirth please list how many times each of the following was a contributing factor, concluded from the investigation.**

- a. Failing to monitor reduced foetal movements**
- b. Wrongly interpreting test results during pregnancy**
- c. Failing to act on test results which highlight a problem**
- d. Failure to treat infections in the mother**
- e. Poor staffing levels**
- f. Failure to notice vital signs of distress**

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.

**4. Please provide the number of neonatal deaths at your trust**

	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Number of Neonatal Deaths</b>	37	34	29	21	32

**5. Please provide the review process for each neonatal death, e.g. X number of SII's, X number referred to the coroner. If relevant, please include the number that led to no review.**

<b>(Review Process for the Neonatal Deaths up to 28 days)</b>	<b>PMRT (no. of completed review and reports)</b>	<b>SII</b>	<b>Referral to Coroner</b>
<b>2018</b>	0	*	0

2019	12	*	*
2020	0	*	0
2021	*	*	*
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).

**6. In any reviews following a neonatal death, please list how many times each of the following was a contributing factor, concluded from the investigation.**

- a. Failing to monitor reduced foetal movements**
- b. Wrongly interpreting test results during pregnancy**
- c. Failing to act on test results which highlight a problem**
- d. Failure to treat infections in the mother**
- e. Poor staffing levels**
- f. Failure to notice vital signs of distress**
- g. Failing in antenatal care**
- h. Insufficient or inaccurate handovers**
- i. Failing to recognise need for caesarean**

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.

**7. Please provide the number of maternal deaths at your trust**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Number of Maternal Deaths	*	0	*	*	*

**8. Please provide the number of midwifery staffing red flags at your trust - I am looking for the total number of midwifery red flag events logged by your trust in the 5 years - so any of the examples listed below, plus any additional events that your trust locally agrees to be a 'midwifery red flag'. For context, you could include what those locally agreed events**

are - but I am just looking for the total number of events, whatever may have caused them.

- delayed or cancelled time-critical activity
- missed or delayed care (eg delay of 60 minutes or more in washing and suturing)
- missed medication during an admission to hospital or midwifery-led unit (eg diabetes medication)
- delay of more than 30 minutes in providing pain relief
- delay of 30 minutes or more between presentation and triage
- full clinical examination not carried out when presenting in labour
- delay of two hours or more between admission for induction and start of the process
- delayed recognition of and action on abnormal vital signs (eg sepsis or urine output)
- any occasion when one midwife is unable to provide continuous one-to-one care
- support to a woman during established labour.

The 'red flags' we have relating to midwifery staffing are categorised under

1:1 Care

Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Number of Reported Incidents	1	1	1	5	2

Delay of 30 minutes presentation to triage

Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Number of Reported Incidents	0	2	0	0	1

-Delayed time critical activity

Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Number of Reported Incidents	0	0	0	6	5

*Please note that Trusts set their own red flags so the data cannot be compared to other Trusts.*

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**