

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 24-272

26 March 2024

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 hold some of the information you are requesting

(a) how many times and (b) for how many days in a year, have each of your maternity wards been closed to new admissions as a result of staffing or any other challenges, in each of the past 5 years.

2019 = 6 occasions

2020 = 10 occasions

2021 = 14 occasions

2022 = 14 occasions

2023 = 6 occasions

2024 to date = 2 occasions

We have a clear and agreed process for the management of the maternity services in the event of a full or partial reduction to the usual operational running of the maternity service. When we have attempted to close the unit due to acuity, we have only ever partially reduced our service to new admissions. This is due to our tertiary status for maternal medicine and fetal medicine and the complex needs of these service users.

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**