

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 24-460

18 June 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 do hold the information you are requesting

1. Do each of your maternity units which offer consultant-led births have two obstetric theatres available 24/7 with a full complement of staff available should the second theatre be needed? How long does it take to mobilise the second theatre and staff if it needed?

Yes, we have two dedicated obstetric theatres. Our first obstetric theatre is fully staffed 24/7. Our second obstetric theatre is fully staffed Monday to Friday between 08:00 and 21:00 hours and 08:00 to 14:00 on Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays - outside of these hours - staffing for the second theatre is via an 'on-call system'. When staff are mobilised via the on-call system they are expected to be in attendance within 30 minutes.

2. If you don't have a second obstetric theatre, what arrangements are in place should you have two obstetric emergencies requiring theatres at the same time? What hours are covered by these arrangements?

Not applicable

3. If you don't have a second obstetric theatre, have you any plans to establish one? Has funding been obtained and how much?

Not applicable

4. How long approximately does it take to transfer a woman from the labour ward to 1. Your normal obstetric theatre? 2. Whichever additional theatre would be used in the event of two emergencies at the same time?

There is immediate access between our central delivery suite and theatres. It typically takes between one and three minutes to move a patient from their room on CDS to either of our obstetric theatres.

5. Have you had any serious incidents/Datix (or other reporting system) reports in the

last three years involving lack of timely access to fully staffed theatres in maternity emergencies?

No incidents meeting the criteria of either 'Moderate, Major or Catastrophic' harm recorded within the last three years involving lack of timely access to fully staffed theatres in a maternity emergency.

6. Please attach any policies you have on maternity emergencies/escalation.

Please see the attached documents.

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