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## RE: Freedom of Information Request

20<sup>th</sup> August 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2024, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold some of the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below. Please accept our sincere apologies for the delay. In your request you asked:

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

- The number of midwifery "red flag" incidents (examples provided here: <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng4/chapter/recommendations#box-3-midwifery-red-flag-events>) identified in your maternity departments, broken down by year**
  - If your organisation has other "red flag" incidents agreed locally, please specify what they are and how many occurred per year
  - Of these, please specify how many of these incidents (as a proportion - i.e. 65%, and the raw number) related to staffing levels. NHSE guidelines state that the midwife in charge should document whether midwifery staffing is the cause: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/safe-staffing-maternity-appendices.pdf>
    - 2019 – \*This information is not held.
    - 2020 – \*This information is not held.
    - 2021 – \*This information is not held.
    - 2022 – \*This information is not held.
    - 2023 – \*\*238 red flags, 4 of which relating to staffing matters.

\*Birthrate+ was not used prior to November 2022 and red flags were not documented on initial implementation.

\*\*Please note that red flags are recorded every 4hrs so there may be times where the flags are recorded for the same thing.

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

- **Of those, please break down (again as a proportion and raw number) how many divers were**

**a) due to a lack of staff –**

2019 – \*This information is not held.

2020 – \*This information is not held.

2021 – \*This information is not held.

2022 – 9 (part year).

2023 – 4

\*Birthrate+ was not used prior to November 2022.

**b) for other reasons, please provide details –**

2019 – \*This information is not held.

2020 – \*This information is not held.

2021 – \*This information is not held.

2022 – 13 delivered in other units for clinical reasons (required to be in a tertiary NNU for a higher level of care)

2023 – 12 – delivered in other units for clinical reasons (required to be in a tertiary NNU for a higher level of care).

\*Birthrate+ was not used prior to November 2022.

I trust this information answers your request. Should you have any further enquiries or queries about this response please do not hesitate to contact me. However, if you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled, 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: Sally Brook Shanahan, Director of Corporate Affairs, King's Mill Hospital, Mansfield Road, Sutton in Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, NG17 4JL or email [sally.brookshanahan@nhs.net](mailto:sally.brookshanahan@nhs.net).

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office, who will consider whether we have complied with our obligations under the Act and can require us to remedy any problems. The Information Commissioner's Office cannot decide unless you have exhausted the internal review procedure. You can find out more about how to do this, and about the Act in general, on the Information Commissioner's Office website at:

<https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/official-information/>.

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Complaints to the Information Commissioner's Office should be sent to FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Telephone 0303 1231113, email [casework@ico.org.uk](mailto:casework@ico.org.uk).

If you would like this letter or information in an alternative format, for example large print or easy read, or if you need help with communicating with us, for example because you use British Sign Language, please let us know. You can call us on 01623 672232 or email [sfh-tr.foi.requests@nhs.net](mailto:sfh-tr.foi.requests@nhs.net).

Yours faithfully

### Information Governance Team

All information we have provided is subject to the provisions of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015. Accordingly, if the information has been made available for re-use under the [Open Government Licence](#) (OGL) a request to re-use is not required, but the licence conditions must be met. You must not re-use any previously unreleased information without having the consent from Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Should you wish to re-use previously unreleased information then you must make your request in writing. All requests for re-use will be responded to within twenty working days of receipt.

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