

**King's Mill Hospital**  
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**29<sup>th</sup> September 2026**

Dear Sir/Madam

**Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000 - Request for Information Reference:** Domestic abuse disclosures to maternity 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24

I am writing in response to your request for information under the FOI 2000.

I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below. Please accept our sincere apologies for the delay.

**Home, Community, Hospital.**

| FOI Request / Question                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Question Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Is there an exemption? | Exemption  | Exemption Details                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
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| <p>1. Please provide the following information for each of the last three financial years (2021/22, 2022/23, and 2023/24, or the most recent three years available).</p> <p>a) Please provide the number of maternity bookings (or births) for the Trust, so disclosure rates can be calculated (e.g. per 1,000 bookings).</p> <p>b) The total number of disclosures of domestic abuse made to midwives within your Trust.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please confirm the number of disclosures made in pregnancy, and how many post-birth.</li> </ul> <p>c) The total number of disclosures of domestic abuse made to other staff within maternity services.</p> | <p>a) 2023/24 – 3733<br/>2024/25 – 3395<br/>2025/26 – 3215</p> <p>b) Section 12</p> <p>c) During Pregnancy<br/>2023/24 – 209<br/>2024/25 – 185<br/>2025/26 – 190</p> <p>Post Birth<br/>2023/24 – 136<br/>2024/25 – 118<br/>2025/26 – 437</p> <p>d) Section 12</p> <p>e) Section 12 and Section 40(2)</p> | Yes                    | Section 12 | <p>Section 12 of the Act allows the Trust to refuse to deal with any requests where we estimate that responding to the request would exceed the cost limit. We have identified that question 1b, d and e will exceed the cost limit. For public authorities the cost limit is £450 (18 hours). If responding to one part of a request would exceed the cost limit, we do not have to provide a response to any other parts of the request. Therefore, the estimated cost of processing your request is £2,656.25. This charge has been calculated in accordance with section 13 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Freedom of Information Fees Regulations.</p> <p>In order to locate this information, we would need to review individual patient records. We have estimated that we can locate and review 12 patient records per hour. We estimate that the cost of satisfying your request will be £2,656.25 (106.25 hours x £25 per hour).</p> <p>Under section 16 of the Act we are obliged to advise you to refine your request to narrow the scope in order</p> |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please confirm the number of disclosures made in pregnancy, and how many post-birth.</li> </ul> <p>d) If known, of the total disclosures recorded, how many resulted in an escalation or referral, for example, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs)</li> <li>Other domestic abuse specialist support services</li> <li>Mental health services</li> <li>Children's social care</li> <li>MARAC or equivalent multi-agency processes</li> <li>police</li> <li>other specialist support services</li> </ul> <p>e) If possible, please provide a breakdown of the disclosures by any of the following demographic categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>age group of the person making the disclosure</li> </ul> |  |  |  | <p>to bring it within the appropriate limit. Can we suggest that the timescales for question 1b, d and e are reduced, for example, to a calendar month. If the timescales are reduced to a month, the Trust will be able to respond to all of your questions.</p> <p>If you are unable to reduce the scope of the request the Trust will be unable to continue processing your request until the fee is paid. If you wish to proceed with this request the fee will need to be paid within three calendar months. If the fee is not received by this date, I shall take it that you do not wish to pursue this request and will consider the request closed.</p> <p><b>Section 40 (2)</b><br/>We are not obliged, under section 40(2) of the Act, to provide information that is the personal data of another person if releasing would contravene any of the provisions of UK GDPR. In this instance we believe that the release of this information, would not be fair and contravene the first data protection principle and therefore section 40 (2) is engaged.</p> <p>The terms of this exemption in the Freedom of Information Act mean that we do not have to consider</p> |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ethnicity of the person making the disclosure</li> <li>• gender of the person making the disclosure</li> <li>• sexuality of the person making the disclosure</li> <li>• disability of the person making the disclosure</li> <li>• immigration status of the person making the disclosure</li> </ul> <p>If the data is not recorded in exactly this format, we would welcome any related or approximate data that may help build a clearer picture of domestic abuse disclosures within maternity services.</p> <p>This dataset is intended to be compared to the NHS England Maternity Services Dashboard to ensure reporting is relative and comparative to demographics served by individual Trusts. Individual Trusts</p> |  |  |  | <p>whether or not it would be in the public interest for you to have the information.</p> <p>Further guidance is available from the Information Commissioners Office: <a href="https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1213/personal-information-section-40-and-regulation-13-foia-and-eir-guidance.pdf">https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1213/personal-information-section-40-and-regulation-13-foia-and-eir-guidance.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Considering low numbers</b><br/><a href="#">Freedom of Information Act 2000 (Section 50)</a><br/><a href="https://ico.org.uk">ico.org.uk</a></p> <p>22. An identifiable living individual is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of the individual.</p> <p>29. The Trust also stated that ‘the number, combined with different pieces of information collected together, could lead to the identification of a particular person’.</p> |
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| may be named in any published analysis. |  |  |  | <p>30. The Commissioner notes that the Trust employs more than 16,000 staff over five hospitals throughout the City of London and East London. The Commissioner also notes that the Trust has not provided to the complainant any identifiers with the numbers such as location or hospital department.</p> <p>31. The Commissioner is not convinced that the suppressed numbers identifying the number of physical assaults for physical injury (moderate harm)(Q3), for police called (alleged perpetrator removed from premises)(Q8), for police called (verbal warning given)(Q9) and for police called (no action taken - alleged perpetrator left before police arrived) (Q10) would lead to the identification of the individuals themselves.</p> <p>32. Although there is potentially a risk of self-identification in that a person may point to the suppressed number for physical injury (Q3) and decide that they had witnessed or their injury was one of those few, it is not clear to the Commissioner how some-one else could link the number to an identifiable individual. There is no information by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number,</p> |
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|  |  |  |  | <p>location data or an online identifier and no information with any biographical significance.</p> <p>33. The Commissioner is not convinced that the Trust has provided sufficient evidence to link the suppressed numbers to any of the identifiers as listed in paragraph 22 above.</p> <p>34. The Commissioner considers that the information does relate to a living person but does not relate to a person who is identifiable. It is not reasonable to assume that individuals could be identified if the 6 suppressed numbers were disclosed.</p> <p>35. Therefore, the Commissioner is satisfied that the requested information in this case does not constitute personal data.</p> |
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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. Generally, 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/>.

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 20 working days of receipt.