



Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-130

Royal Stoke University Hospital
Quality, Safety and Compliance Department
Newcastle Road
Stoke-on-Trent
Staffordshire
ST4 6QG

Date: 20th June 2018

Tel: 01782 676474
Email foi@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 25th May 2018 (received into our office 29th May) requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding caesarean section delivery.

On 13th June 2018 we contacted you via email as we required clarification on what you meant by effected? Q1 (a)

On 13th June 2018 (received into our office 14th June) you replied via email the following: *"Effected' means carried out, accomplished, brought about, i.e. the standard Oxford dictionary definition of the word. We trust that you will respond within the original 20 day timescale"*

As of 1st November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHNM) manages two hospital sites – Royal Stoke University Hospital, and County Hospital (Stafford). Therefore the response below is for the two sites combined from that date where appropriate.

Q1 Between 21:45 hours on 27 February 2013 and 01:45 hours, on 28 February 2013 how many theatres were in operation for caesarean section delivery?

During the aforesaid times/dates, please specify: –

- a) **The number of caesarean section deliveries effected?**
- b) **The timing of each caesarean section delivery and the category applied to each e.g. Grade 1/Grade II etc.**
- c) **The number of Consultant Obstetricians staffing the labour ward?**
- d) **The number of Consultant Obstetricians staffing the theatres?**
- e) **Were the labour and delivery suite and/or operating theatres short staffed and if so in what respect?**
- f) **Were there any unusual circumstances prevailing in the labour and delivery suite and/or operating theatres between the aforesaid times/ that caused or contributed to delays in patients being clinically assessed and also deliveries in theatre?**

A1 Please see below: Please note that the information below relates to University Hospital of North Staffordshire.

a) The number of caesarean section deliveries	We are unable to provide the information you
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effected?	require in the requested format as to release this data could lead to the identification of the person(s) involved due to the low numbers involved, and would breach the Trusts obligations under The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) Accordingly, this aspect of your request is exempt from disclosure under the terms of Section 40(2) of the Act. <i>Personal information</i> . However as the Trust is committed to openness and transparency we can band the numbers of and confirm that there was less than 5
b) The timing of each caesarean section delivery and the category applied to each e.g. Grade 1/Grade II etc.	Section 40 exemption as above
c) The number of Consultant Obstetricians staffing the labour ward?	The Trust always has one Consultant on-call
d) The number of Consultant Obstetricians staffing the theatres?	As above
e) Were the labour and delivery suite and/or operating theatres short staffed and if so in what respect?	The Trust ensures that Theatre staffing is adequate and also have an escalation process to ensure the provision of safe staffing
f) Were there any unusual circumstances prevailing in the labour and delivery suite and/or operating theatres between the aforesaid times/ that caused or contributed to delays in patients being clinically assessed and also deliveries in theatre?	From our acuity tool we were detailed as level three escalations. We did not need to obtain help from other areas during the time points detailed. We had a dedicated theatre team during the time points detailed.

Q2 As at 27/28 February 2013, did the Hospital have a policy/guideline/protocol in respect of the following and if so, kindly provide copies:

- a) **Assessment/management of pregnant patients upon identification of growth of Streptococcus B.**
- b) **Assessment/management in the third trimester upon identification of reduced foetal movement.**
- c) **Assessment/management in the third trimester upon identification of foetal tachycardia.**
- d) **Assessment/management in the third trimester upon identification of meconium stained amniotic fluid.**
- e) **Calling for medical review in the third trimester upon identification of a suspicious CTG.**
- f) **Undertaking ARM in relation to the MAU.**
- g) **Undertaking foetal blood sampling.**
- h) **Categorising degree of urgency for caesarean section delivery.**
- i) **The time interval between decision to deliver by Caesarean section and actual delivery.**

A2 Please see attached documents.

*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

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This letter confirms the completion of this request. A log of this request and a copy of this letter will be held by the Trust.

If you have any queries related to the response provided please in the first instance contact my office.

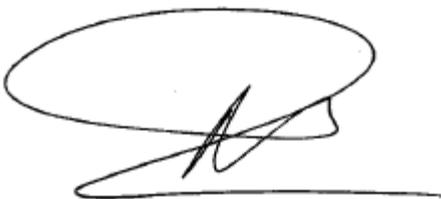
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and request an assessment of the manner in which the Trust has managed your request.

The Information Commissioner may be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF or via www.ico.org.uk.

If following review of the responses I can be of any further assistance please contact my secretary on 01782 676474.

Yours,



Mojgan Casillas
Interim Information Governance Manager



**University Hospitals
of North Midlands**
NHS Trust