



Ref: FOIA Reference 2022/23-605

Date: 7th February 2023

Email foi@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 20th January 2023 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Miscarriage support

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 I would like to request, under the Freedom of Information Act, the following information regarding miscarriages in maternity services.

Primary discharge reason (mother maternity services) is the primary reason that the mother was discharged from a Maternity Service.

1) The total number of cases with a Primary Discharge reason recorded and the total number of cases with a Primary Discharge reason of “Miscarriage”.

Please can you provide the data with the following break downs?

a) Yearly totals for the years 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017.

b) Level of deprivation of the mother, from 1-Most deprived to 10-Least deprived

c) Racial and/or Ethnic group of the mother, e.g. Asian, Black, White, etc.

A1 Volume of patients where Miscarriage was indicated as pregnancy outcome
Where formal booking appointment was held excludes ‘Birth’ events where outcome not live (e.g. Unregisterable births <24wk gestation)

New maternity system implemented during 2017, therefore 2017 figures may represent partial numbers as electronic data capture of pregnancy conclusion not done prior. Unable to provide without visiting all patient notes, therefore section 12 exemption as detailed:

I can neither confirm nor deny whether the information you have requested is held by the Trust in its entirety. This is because the information requested in this question is not held centrally, but may be recorded in individual health records. In order to confirm whether this information is held we would therefore have to individually access all individual health records within the Trust and extract the information where it is present. We therefore estimate that complying with your request is exempt under section 12 of the FOI Act: *cost of compliance is excessive*. The section 12 exemption applies when it is estimated a request will take in excess of 18 hours to complete. We estimate that accessing and reviewing all individual health records and then extracting relevant information would take longer than the 18 hours allowed for.

In addition to the section 12 exemption the Trust is also applying section 14 (1) exemption: *oppressive burden on the authority*

Under section 16 of the FOI Act we are required to provide requestors with advice and assistance where possible. We would therefore like to advise you that if your request is shortened to just questions 1 and 3 we are able to comply within the 18 hour time frame. In order to avoid delay to your response we have provided this below.

Date based on the date Trust documented / was notified of the pregnancy outcome, which may not be the actual date of the miscarriage.

a)

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Grand Total
Sum of IsUniquePregnancy	309	502	471	517	573	464	2836

b)

Row Labels	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Grand Total
1 - Most deprived	63	95	102	103	122	106	591
2	51	72	71	66	88	67	415
3	28	54	45	55	66	53	301
4	23	39	42	44	43	37	228
5	16	36	25	27	34	33	171
6	35	53	43	58	56	46	291
7	27	46	39	41	45	30	228
8	19	47	31	32	35	33	197
9	23	36	39	54	45	32	229
10 - Least deprived	19	20	25	29	25	14	132
(blank) - unable to calculate	5	4	9	8	14	13	53
Grand Total	309	502	471	517	573	464	2836

c)

Row Labels	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Grand Total
A - White: British	242	392	365	371	420	335	2125
B - White: Irish	2	2		3		1	8

C - White: Any other background	16	10	19	21	31	21	118
D - Mixed: White and Black Caribbean	1	1	4	3	1	1	11
E - Mixed: White and Black African	1	2		3	1	2	9
F - Mixed: White and Asian		3	1	3	2	3	12
G - Mixed: Any other background	3	3	5	4	5	2	22
H - Asian: Indian	4	5	5	3	4	9	30
J - Asian: Pakistani	14	25	21	32	36	27	155
K - Asian: Bangladeshi	1	2		2		2	7
L - Asian: Any other background	5	9	10	10	9	9	52
M - Black: Caribbean		2		1	1	1	5
N - Black: African	4	4	6	5	7	8	34
P - Black: Any other background				2	2	3	7
R - Chinese	2	4	1		1	3	11
S - Any other ethnic group	4	10	11	12	12	7	56
Z - Not stated	10	28	23	42	41	30	174
Grand Total	309	502	471	517	573	464	2836

Q2 Available support programs & groups mothers are signposted to after a miscarriage and, if applicable, criteria for receiving support.

A2 See below:

Information offered to all via leaflets/signposted to websites
Support groups –
Cradle
Mariposa
A child of mine
SANDS
Dove
Stafford & District bereavement loss and support
Miscarriage association
Ectopic Trust

Q3 The total number of bereavement midwives employed by your Trust or any other staff/nurses specialised in supporting women after a miscarriage.

Please can you provide the data with the following breakdown?

a) Yearly for the years 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017.

A3 See below:

2017 -1
2018 – 1
2019 – 1
2020 – Jan – May = 1, May – December = 1.8
2021 – Jan – November = 1.8, November – December = 2.0
2022 - 2

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

UHNM NHS Trust is a public sector body and governed by EU law. FOI requestors should note that any new Trust requirements over the EU threshold will be subject to these regulations and will be advertised for open competition accordingly.

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An anonymised copy of this request can be found on the Trust's disclosure log, please note that all requests can be found at the following link: <http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/aboutus/Statutory-Policies-and-Procedures/Pages/Freedom-of-Information-Disclosure-Log.aspx>

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 671612.

Yours,





University Hospitals
of North Midlands
NHS Trust

Rachel Montinaro
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records

