

Ref no: 173050419
From: Public
Date: 05/04/19
Subject: Maternity services

REQUEST

Could you please help me find the most recent statistics relating to infant deaths? **Would it be possible to retrieve data from 2010 onwards**, the following, in excel format please.

1. Infant deaths
 - a. Total number
 - b. Stillbirths
 - c. Neonatal
 - d. Postneonatal
 - e. Babies who suffered serious harm during birth
 - f. Causes of death
 - g. Breakdown of points a–f by infant's ethnicity

2. Serious untoward incidents (SUI) in maternity services
 - a. Total number
 - b. How many led to death
 - c. How many led to a civil action being instigated
 - d. Breakdown of SUIs by infant's and mother's ethnicity
 - e. Breakdown of SUI cases that led to death by infant's and mother's ethnicity

3. Maternal deaths
 - a. Total number
 - b. Breakdown by ethnicity

4. Staff working in maternity services
 - a. Total medical staff
 - b. Total non-medical staff
 - c. Breakdown by ethnicity

RESPONSE

Please note: Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act St Helens & Knowsley Teaching Hospitals does not have to comply with a request if we estimate that the cost of complying would exceed the appropriate limit of £450. As such we have provided as much information as we can with this in mind. Further explanation of what has or has not been answered is offered below.

We are also unable to provide precise figures when these equate to five or less due to the risk that individuals will be identified, as we are required to protect their identity under the Data Protection Act. In such circumstances sections 40(2) and (3) of the Freedom of Information Act apply. In this case, our view is that disclosure would breach the first data protection principle. This states that personal data should be processed fairly and lawfully. It is the fairness aspect of this principle which, in our view, would be breached by disclosure. In such circumstances section 40 confers an absolute exemption on disclosure. There is, therefore, no public interest test to apply.

1. Infant deaths

TYPE	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Still Birth	11	13	11	11	13	11	14	15	20
Neo Natal	5 or less	5 or less	5 or less	0	5 or less	5 or less	5 or less	6	5 or less

As noted above – a, d, e, f and g would constitute a large piece of work which we would be unable to complete within the appropriate cost limit.

2. Total Serious untoward incidents (SUI) in maternity services

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
5 or less	0	5 or less	0	0	5 or less	5 or less	5 or less	5 or less

As noted above – b, c, d and e would constitute a large piece of work which we would be unable to complete within the appropriate cost limit. Additionally, due to the low numbers much of the information in those questions would be exempt under Section 40 of the Act.

3. Total Maternal deaths

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018

5 or less	5 or less	5 or less	0	0	5 or less	0	0	0
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Due to the low numbers in 3(a) – the information in 3(b) regarding a breakdown by ethnicity would be exempt under section 40 of the Act as per the note above.

4. Staff working in maternity services

Due to the low numbers b) regarding a breakdown by ethnicity would be exempt under section 40 of the Act as per the note above.