

Information Governance

21 February 2017

Our Ref: RFI 19420

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Maternity Incident Reporting**

I am writing to confirm that the South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust (the Trust) has now completed its search for the information relating to the above which you requested on 18 January 2017.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Woman and Acute Child Health Directorate and is attached in Appendix A.

Under the terms of the legislation, if you are unhappy with this response you have the right to seek a review within the Trust in the first instance. If you wish to do so, please write to me at the address below.

If after such a review you are still unhappy with the response, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner who will undertake an independent review. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, SK9 5AF.

If you have any queries about this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

**L McAree (Miss)
Head of Information Governance &
Directorate Support**

The Royal College of Midwives (RCM) would like to make a request, under the Freedom of Information Act for the following information:

Q1. *Please indicate how many reported incidents relating to patient safety were reported in maternity every month during 2016?*

[Reported incidents using your organisation's incident management reporting system for example Datix].

| | Number of reported incidents, in maternity, relating to patient safety |
|-----------------------|---|
| January 2016 | 76 |
| February 2016 | 105 |
| March 2016 | 89 |
| April 2016 | 93 |
| May 2016 | 97 |
| June 2016 | 93 |
| July 2016 | 113 |
| August 2016 | 135 |
| September 2016 | 110 |
| October 2016 | 96 |
| November 2016 | 89 |
| December 2016 | Not available yet |

Q2. *Please indicate how many of the reported incidents were caused by staffing levels as reported in maternity every month during 2016?*

[Reported incidents using your organisation's incident management reporting system for example Datix].

| | Number of reported incidents, in maternity, caused by staffing levels |
|-----------------------|--|
| January 2016 | 3 midwifery |
| February 2016 | 5 midwifery |
| March 2016 | 5 midwifery |
| April 2016 | 5 midwifery |
| May 2016 | 2 midwifery |
| June 2016 | 2 midwifery |
| July 2016 | 3 midwifery |
| August 2016 | 4 midwifery |
| September 2016 | 3 midwifery |
| October 2016 | 3 midwifery |
| November 2016 | 7 midwifery |
| December 2016 | Not available yet |

Q3. Some incident reporting systems require an assessment of the severity of the incident.

Please indicate the level of severity of the reported incidents that related to patient safety and were caused by staffing levels as reported in maternity every month during 2016?

Please specify the different levels of severity and add more columns as appropriate.

[Reported incidents using your organisation's incident management reporting system for example Datix].

| | Number of reported incidents, in maternity, caused by staffing levels | | |
|----------------|---|--|---|
| | Severity of incident - Please specify level e.g. high risk | Severity of incident - Please specify level e.g. medium risk | Severity of incident - Please specify level e.g. low risk |
| January 2016 | | | 3 |
| February 2016 | | | 5 |
| March 2016 | | | 5 |
| April 2016 | | | 5 |
| May 2016 | | | 2 |
| June 2016 | | | 2 |
| July 2016 | | | 3 |
| August 2016 | | | 4 |
| September 2016 | | | 3 |
| October 2016 | | | 3 |
| November 2016 | | | 7 |
| December 2016 | | | Not available yet |

Q4. *Some incident reporting systems require an assessment of how likely it is that the incident will occur again.*

Please indicate the likelihood of reoccurrence of the reported incidents that related to patient safety and were caused by staffing levels as reported in maternity every month during 2016?

Please specify the different levels of likelihood of reoccurrence and add more columns as appropriate.

[Reported incidents using your organisation's incident management reporting system for example Datix].

A4. Our current database does not record the likelihood of reoccurrence in the reports; this would require a manual search of individual reporting sheets. In order to obtain this information through a manual exercise and to ensure its accuracy, it would exceed the Freedom of Information Fee limit (£450) and therefore the Trust is not in a position to provide this information.