

NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance Department

Suite 9 Buckingham Row Brick Kiln Lane Wigan WN1 1XX

Email: foi@wwl.nhs.uk Web: www.wwl.nhs.uk

Ref: FOI/2023/8571

Date Received: 3rd January 2023

Response Due: 31st January 2023

Date: 22nd March 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

You asked:

Please release all current policy documents, guidelines, memos, minutes of meetings and internal emails (and their attachments) that relate to the Trust's policy on elective C-Sections and so-called 'normal' or 'natural' (vaginal) births and in what circumstances either should take place. Any memos or emails should be dated after 20th February 2022.

Please find attached all meeting minutes and guidelines.

Please find exemption notice below for internal emails.

Refusal Notice for question(s) - The information that you have requested is exempt under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act because it will take more than 18 hours to retrieve and extract the relevant information.

- 12. (1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit. Regulation 4(3) of the Fees Regulations states that a public authority can only take into account the costs it reasonably expects to incur in carrying out the following permitted activities in complying with the request:
 - determining whether the information is held;
 - locating the information, or a document containing it;
 - retrieving the information, or a document containing it; and
 - extracting the information from a document containing it.

All public authorities should calculate the time spent on the permitted activities at the flat rate of £25 per person, per hour.

This means that the appropriate limit will be exceeded if it would require more than 18 hours work for all public authorities.

If you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department via the email address provided. If we do not hear from you within 28 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,

Rabina Tindale Chief Nurse & DIPC

PLEASE NOTE:

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Suite 9, Buckingham Row, Brick Kiln Lane, Wigan, WN1 1XX.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at:

The Information Commissioner's Office Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Helpline number: 0303 123 111