



Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

Trust Headquarters

Chief Nurse

Royal Albert Edward Infirmary

Wigan Lane

Wigan

WN1 2NN

T: 01942 773291

E: kevin.parker-evans@wwl.nhs.uk

Ref: FOI/2025/11179

Date Received: 27th October 2025

Response Due: 24th November 2025

Date: 24th November 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 27th October 2025, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

1. On how many days between 1 April 2024 and 30 September 2025 was your home birth service suspended or restricted (ie would not have attended a woman in labour at home if requested to do so)?

We are unable to identify for 2024.

Date	Time
31/01/2025 – 01/02/2025	17:30 – 08:00
01/03/2025 – 02/03/2025	17:30 – 08:00
18/03/2025 – 19/03/2025	18:00 – 08:00
07/04/2025 – 08/04/2025	17:30 – 08:00
25/04/2025 – 26/04/2025	17:30 – 08:00
15/05/2025 – 16/05/2025	17:00 – 08:00
04/05/2025 – 05/05/2025	17:00 – 08:00
02/07/2025 – 03/07/2025	17:00 – 08:00
17/09/2025 – 18/09/2025	18:00 – 08:00
23/09/2025 – 24/09/2025	18:00 – 08:00
04/10/2025 – 05/10/2025	17:00 – 08:00
13/10/2025 – 14/10/2025	18:00 – 08:00
02/11/2025 – 03/11/2025	18:00 – 08:00

2. How many women were unable to access the home birth service on these days? (ie were booked for a home birth and were then told they had to give birth in a hospital or birthing unit or contacted you during labour, asking for a home birth even if this had not been booked in advance)

The Trust does not record this information

3. If you have a standalone midwifery unit (ie one which is not on the same site as an obstetrician-led service so not co-located), on how many days between 1 April 2024 and 30 September 2025 was this suspended or restricted (ie women would not have been admitted if they went into labour – even if no women needed the service on these days)?

N/A the Trust does not have a standalone midwifery unit

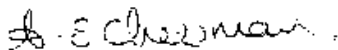
4. How many women in labour were unable to access the unit to give birth on these days?

N/A the Trust does not have a standalone midwifery unit

Clarification: If you have more than one standalone midwifery unit please answer these questions separately for each one. By day we mean the 24 hours from midnight to midnight: we are asking about suspensions or restrictions at any point during the day even if they did not last for the whole 24 hours. We are only asking about birth services – not antenatal or postnatal services.

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 40 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,



Amanda Cheesman
Deputy Chief Nurse

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