



Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance Department

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Email: foi@wwl.nhs.uk

Web: www.wwl.nhs.uk

Ref: FOI/2024/9731

Date Received: 21st March 2024

Response Due: 22nd April 2024

Date: 19th April 2024

Dear Sir/Madam,

With reference to your request for information received on 21st March 2024, 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. What is (a) the average wait and (b) the longest wait, for access to a) pregnancy assessment emergency room and b) early pregnancy and acute gynaecology unit in each of the last 5 years.**

The Trust is unable to provide this data as it is not centrally recorded.

- 2. (a) how many times and (b) for how many days in a year, have each of your maternity wards been closed to new admissions as a result of staffing or any other challenges, in each of the past 5 years.**

The Trust refers to closing the ward to new admissions as a "Divert.". Please see below for a year by year breakdown of number of occurrences.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Unit on Divert	7	0	3	2	3

The Trust is unable to answer section (b) of this question due to data quality issues making the information not reliable.

- 3. How many times have there been (a) delays to the induction of labour; (b) delays to caesarean sections and (c) cancelled caesarean sections, as a result of a lack of staff and/or beds in your maternity unit in each of the last 5 years.**

The Trust is unable to provide this data as it is not recorded centrally, if recorded it would be held within individual case notes. As case notes are for the care and treatment of patients, we do not request staff to interrogate them in order to collate the information required to respond to Freedom of Information requests.

4. In each of the last 5 years: a) number of FTE equivalent midwives by agenda for change grade working at your trust and b) how many midwives that have left your trust.

a) Number of FTE equivalent midwives by agenda for change grade working at your trust.

FTE	Apr 19 – Mar 20	Apr 20 – Mar 21	Apr 21 – Mar 22	Apr 22 – Mar 23	Apr 23 – Mar 24
Band 4	-	0.64	-	-	2.00
Band 5	15.36	14.80	16.92	16.96	18.16
Band 6	85.76	88.20	88.43	89.54	90.56
Band 7	20.99	20.32	22.05	26.08	30.09
Band 8a	3.00	3.00	2.00	3.96	2.49
Band 8b	-	-	-	1.00	1.00

*Please note that this is contacted FTE/WTE for midwives, not including midwifery support workers.

b) How many midwives that have left your trust.

FTE	April 19 – Mar 20	Apr 20 – Mar 21	Apr 21 – Mar 22	Apr 22 – Mar 23	Apr 23 – Mar 24
Band 5	3.88	1.76	-	-	-
Band 6	3.72	5.84	5.72	9.64	6.51
Band 7	2.00	1.80	1.00	1.00	1.00

*Please note these are staff who have an occupational code indicating they are a midwife (N2C) and the figures exclude the leaving reasons of death in service and flexi retirements.

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,



Claire Wannell
Director of Operations & Performance – Surgery Division

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