

FOI 3452

1st December 2025

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST

Question: Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request records of mental health in postpartum women ranging from January 2015 to as recently in 2025 as the data exists.

More specifically:

From 2015 to 2025, what were the rates of diagnosed mental health issues in postpartum women, including depression, anxiety, OCD, and postpartum psychosis?

Response: This information is not recorded centrally and therefore retrieving it would involve a manual search of individual patient records. As such we cannot provide this information as the cost of locating and retrieving the information exceeds the “appropriate limit” as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004. In order to obtain this information from a number of individual patient records would exceed the £450 limit and is therefore cost prohibitive.

Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, Public Authorities are not obliged to comply with an information request where to do so would exceed the cost limit.

In addition, it would not be appropriate to search through individual patient records for the purposes for responding to a FOI request, there would be no patient expectation that medical records would be used in this way.

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