

FOI 3775

3rd June 2026

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST

How many pregnancies in your trust have been registered in the last 10 years, 5 years, and two years respectively?

Response:

Please see attached spreadsheet.

Of these registered pregnancies, how many have received a diagnosis of a life limiting condition, and/or life-threatening condition and/or fatal fetal abnormality at some point in the gestation period? (again, broken down by numbers for the last 10 years, the last 5 years, and the last two years respectively)

Response:

The Trust does not routinely record or capture, on any centralised clinical or administrative system, the number of pregnancies where a diagnosis of a life-limiting condition, life-threatening condition, or fatal fetal abnormality has been made at any point during the gestation period. As a result, the Trust is unable to provide figures for the last 10 years, last 5 years, or last 2 years.

This information is not recorded centrally and therefore retrieving it would involve a manual search of patient records. As such we cannot provide this 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.

How many pregnancies with a diagnosis of a life limiting condition, and/or life-threatening condition and/or fatal fetal abnormality at some point in the gestation period have resulted in termination of pregnancy - provided either within Northern

**Ireland or within another health jurisdiction within the UK and Rep of Ireland?
(again, broken down by numbers for the last 10 years, last 5 years, and last two years respectively)**

Response:

The Trust does not hold or capture data on outcomes for pregnancies diagnosed with a life-limiting condition, life-threatening condition, or fatal fetal abnormality, including whether such pregnancies resulted in termination of pregnancy. In addition, the Trust does not record information relating to terminations provided outside Northern Ireland.

Consequently, the Trust is unable to provide the requested breakdown for the last 10 years, last 5 years, or last 2 years.

This information is not recorded centrally and therefore retrieving it would involve a manual search of patient records. As such we cannot provide this 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.

How many pregnancies in the last 10 years, 5 years, and two years respectively in Northern Ireland have received a diagnosis of Anencephaly at some point in the gestation period?

Response:

The Trust does not maintain a specific dataset that records or reports the number of pregnancies diagnosed with anencephaly at any point during gestation. As such, the Trust is unable to provide figures for the last 10 years, last 5 years, or last 2 years.

This information is not recorded centrally and therefore retrieving it would involve a manual search of patient records. As such we cannot provide this 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.

Of these pregnancies that have received an Anencephaly diagnosis at some point in the gestation period, how many have resulted in termination of the pregnancy - provided either within Northern Ireland or within another health jurisdiction within the UK and Rep of Ireland? (again, broken down by numbers for the last 10 years, last 5 years, and last two years respectively).

Response:

The Trust does not capture information on pregnancy outcomes specifically linked to a diagnosis of anencephaly, including whether the pregnancy resulted in termination. The Trust also does not hold data on terminations that may have occurred outside Northern Ireland. Therefore, the requested figures for the last 10 years, last 5 years, and last 2 years are not available.

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