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**1<sup>st</sup> May 2025**

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Join today: [www.sfh-tr.nhs.uk](http://www.sfh-tr.nhs.uk)

[REDACTED]

Dear Sir/Madam

**Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000 - Request for Information Reference:** Antenatal  
Communication Regarding Down Syndrome

I am writing in response to your request for information under the FOI 2000.

I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold some of the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below. Please accept our apologies for the delay.

**Home, Community, Hospital.**

FOI Request / Question	Question Response	Is there an exemption?	Exemption	Exemption Details
<p>1. would like to request copies of communication materials sent to expectant women within your Trust.</p> <p>Specifically, I would appreciate copies of the following:</p> <p>a) Letters sent to expectant women advising of screening test results following combined or quadruple screening for Down Syndrome. If the content differs based on the likelihood of a high or low chance result, please provide examples of both.</p> <p>b) Letters or result notifications from Non-Invasive Prenatal Testing (NIPT), including examples for both high and low chance results if they differ.</p> <p>c) Any information shared with expectant women regarding</p>	<p>a) Women with low chance results for combined and quadruple screening tests are sent letters directly from the screening laboratory (at Nottingham University Hospitals), we do not hold this template.</p> <p>Most women who have high chance results have an option of being either telephoned with the results or having a home visit. If the woman has a cross border midwife they will always be informed of the result by the Screening Midwife as the cross border teams don't offer a home visit service for this. Therefore, these women do not get a letter, the results are uploaded into the Electronic Patient Record (Badgernet) once we have discussed it with them. If the woman has one of our Community Midwives and wants a home visit, we have a template letter which is printed onto headed paper in case they aren't at home when the midwife visits. (Template Attached)</p> <p>b) We do not currently have a letter to give NIPT results. Women are informed of the results by telephone by the Screening Midwife, once the woman has been informed the result and conversation are uploaded onto the Electronic Patient Record (Badgernet).</p> <p>c) We direct to the below information: Here is the link to the tests offered at booking: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/screening-tests-for-you-and-your-baby">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/screening-tests-for-you-and-your-baby</a></p>			

<p>these tests (combined/quadruple screening and NIPT), including letters, leaflets, or signposting materials.</p> <p>d) Any materials provided to expectant women about Down Syndrome itself, including guidance on pregnancy and care following an antenatal diagnosis.</p>	<p>This is the same leaflet but in an 'easy-read' version: <a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/61a0baa7d3bf7f055d72d602/STFYAYB_easy_read_T13_T18_T21_section_with_NIPT_Nov_2021.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/61a0baa7d3bf7f055d72d602/STFYAYB_easy_read_T13_T18_T21_section_with_NIPT_Nov_2021.pdf</a></p> <p>This is the link to the leaflet we give when either of these tests generates a higher chance result: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/downs-syndrome-edwards-syndrome-and-pataus-syndrome-options-after-a-higher-chance-screening-result/your-choices-after-a-higher-chance-screening-result">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/downs-syndrome-edwards-syndrome-and-pataus-syndrome-options-after-a-higher-chance-screening-result/your-choices-after-a-higher-chance-screening-result</a></p> <p>This is the link to the leaflet which specifically describes the CVS and amniocentesis options: CVS and amniocentesis diagnostic tests: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cvs-and-amniocentesis-diagnostic-tests-description-in-brief">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cvs-and-amniocentesis-diagnostic-tests-description-in-brief</a></p> <p>d) We usually sign post women to these links: <a href="https://downsyndromeuk.co.uk/">https://downsyndromeuk.co.uk/</a> and Down syndrome association <a href="https://www.downs-syndrome.org.uk/">https://www.downs-syndrome.org.uk/</a> For written material we use a pack from the Down Syndrome Association but unfortunately these aren't available digitally.</p>			
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I trust this information answers your request. Should you have any further enquiries or queries about this response please do not hesitate to contact me. However, if you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Sally Brook Shanahan, Director of Corporate Affairs, King's Mill Hospital, Mansfield Road, Sutton in Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, NG17 4JL or email [sally.brookshanahan@nhs.net](mailto:sally.brookshanahan@nhs.net).

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office, who will consider whether we have complied with our obligations under the Act and can require us to remedy any problems. Generally, the Information Commissioner's Office cannot decide unless you have exhausted the internal review procedure. You can find out more about how to do this, and about the Act in general, on the Information Commissioner's Office website at: <https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/official-information/>.

Complaints to the Information Commissioner's Office should be sent to FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Telephone 0303 1231113, email [casework@ico.org.uk](mailto:casework@ico.org.uk).

If you would like this letter or information in an alternative format, for example large print or easy read, or if you need help with communicating with us, for example because you use British Sign Language, please let us know. You can call us on 01623 672232 or email [sfh-tr.foi.requests@nhs.net](mailto:sfh-tr.foi.requests@nhs.net).

Yours faithfully

#### Information Governance Team

All information we have provided is subject to the provisions of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015. Accordingly, if the information has been made available for re-use under the [Open Government Licence](#) (OGL) a request to re-use is not required, but the licence conditions must be met. You must not re-use any previously unreleased information without having the consent from Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Should you wish to re-use previously unreleased information then you must make your request in writing. All requests for re-use will be responded to within 20 working days of receipt.