**Outstanding Care**, Compassionate People, **Healthier Communities** 



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29th July 2025

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000 - Request for Information Reference: neonatal and paediatric critical care pharmacy staffing levels

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 the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below. Please accept our sincere apologies for the delay.







| FOI Request / Question  | Question Response   | Is there an exemption? | Exemption | Exemption Details |
|---|---|------------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| 1. For each centre within your trust that provides neonatal care, please answer: a. How many funded neonatal intensive care unit (ICU), neonatal high dependency unit (HDU) and special care baby unit (SCBU) cots are there? | 1a - SFH NICU is funded for 12 cots which are classified as: 2 x ITU (level 1) 4 x High Dependency (level 2) 6 x special care (level 3) |                        |           |                   |
| b. Does the centre have access to a senior pharmacist practising in neonatology at Agenda for Change (AFC) Band 8a or equivalent as a minimum?  | b. In establishment yes – post currently vacant   |                        |           |                   |
| c. Does the centre have access to a senior pharmacist with experience in the provision of parenteral nutrition, where necessary?  | c. Yes  |                        |           |                   |
| d. Do pharmacists working in neonatal care attend daily multidisciplinary ward rounds?  | d. In establishment yes – post currently vacant   |                        |           |                   |
| e. How many pharmacists (whole time equivalent) working in neonatal care are active independent prescribers?  | e. Role is expected to be an active independent prescriber when in post.  |                        |           |                   |









| f. Does the centre have access to medicines via<br>the hospital dispensary 7 days a week, with<br>regular stock top ups in accordance with<br>demand, but no less than once a week?                      | f. Yes  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| g. Does the centre have 5 day access to an aseptic and CIVA service where this is needed to provide bespoke parenteral nutrition or where there is substantial use of high risk intravenous medications? | g. PN yes, CIVAS no                                     |  |  |
| h. Does the centre provide a five day or seven   | h. If this varies for different beds, please answer the |  |  |
| day neonatal service? If this varies for different   | below separately for each service.                      |  |  |
| beds, please answer the below separately for each service.   | 5 day when pharmacist in post                           |  |  |
| i How many clinical pharmacists work in  | i. 1 WTE band 8a when in post                           |  |  |
| neonatal care (whole time equivalent),   | i. I WIE band od When in post                           |  |  |
| and at what AfC band?  |   |  |  |
| ii. How many ward-based pharmacy   | ii. 0 WTE   |  |  |

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(whole time equivalent)?

technicians work in the neonatal care

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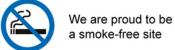


| 2. Does your trust have a paediatric critical care unit? For each paediatric critical care unit within your trust, please answer:                                 | We don't have a separate funded paediatric critical care unit.   |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| a. How many funded paediatric level 2 and level 3 critical care beds are in the unit?   | We are funded to provide 2 level 2 paediatric High dependency beds with ward 25 footfall. We do not provide level 3 support - we would stabilise and transfer out to nearest level 3 PICU bed. |  |  |
| b. Does the unit have access to a senior pharmacist practising in paediatric critical care, funded at Agenda for Change (AFC) Band 8a or equivalent as a minimum? | In establishment yes – post currently vacant   |  |  |
| c. Do pharmacists working in paediatric critical care attend daily multidisciplinary ward rounds?   | This is the aim once in post, the PICU beds have been created since the previous holder left   |  |  |
| d. How many pharmacists (whole time equivalent) in the unit are active independent prescribers?   | N/A  |  |  |
| e. Does the unit have access to medicines via<br>the hospital dispensary 7 days a week, with  | Yes  |  |  |

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| regular stock top ups in accordance with demand, but no less than once a week?  |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| f. Does the unit provide a five day or seven day service? If this varies for different beds, please answer the below separately for each service.  i. How many clinical pharmacists work in paediatric critical care (whole time equivalent), and at what AfC band?  ii. How many ward-based pharmacy technicians work in the unit (whole time equivalent)? | This doesn't stipulate what it means by five or seven day service – if in relation to pharmacy then 5 day.  i. 1 (8a) - In establishment yes – post currently vacant  ii. 0 |  |  |





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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.

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: <a href="https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/official-information/">https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/official-information/</a>.

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 <a href="mailto:casework@ico.org.uk">casework@ico.org.uk</a>.

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 <a href="mailto:sfh-tr.foi.requests@nhs.net">sfh-tr.foi.requests@nhs.net</a>.

Yours faithfully

#### **Information Governance Team**

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