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21st July 2026

[REDACTED]

Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000 - Request for Information Reference: Maternity staffing

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.

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FOI Request / Question	Question Response	Is there an exemption?	Exemption	Exemption Details
1. Does the Trust use the Birth Rate Plus Acuity app for planning and monitoring its real-time maternity staffing levels? - If yes, please provide the following data for each month of 2025: - Please break the data down by different maternity wards and services i.e. midwife led unit, obstetric labour ward, postnatal ward. - A monthly summary of the number and percentage of occasions rated as “red, amber, green” or “meets acuity” vs “does not meet acuity/some number of midwives short” according to the Birth Rate Plus Acuity app. - Please provide the data in the form of a pie chart exported from the Birth Rate Plus app-an example chart is attached.	Yes the Trust does use Birth rate Plus. Please note that at Sherwood Forest Hospitals (SFH) there is only a Birthing Unit(SBU) and a Mixed Maternity ward (data captures both antenatal and postnatal). Charts show the high level break down. Please see accompanying documents: *FOI 1456 Sherwood Birthing Unit Birthrate plus Data 2025 *FOI 1456 Maternity Ward Birthrate plus Data 2025.pdf <i>* Birthrate Plus data continues to be evaluated through the monthly staffing paper and is reviewed by the Perinatal Assurance Committee, which reports directly to the Board. This information is regularly scrutinised alongside other sources of intelligence, including incidents, complaints, concerns, and patient feedback, to provide a comprehensive overview of service performance and workforce requirements.</i> <i>It is recognised that the Birthrate Plus staffing percentages in these graphs do not fully reflect the mitigating actions implemented within the service to maintain safe staffing levels. These measures include the redeployment of Ward Leaders, Matrons, and Specialist Midwives into clinical areas when</i>			

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required, alongside other flexible workforce arrangements to respond to fluctuations in demand and staffing availability.

Staff are supported to maintain compliance with data submission requirements and are provided with ongoing training and development opportunities to ensure the accuracy, quality, and effective use of workforce data in service planning and assurance processes. The triangulation of staffing data with quality, safety, and patient experience metrics provides additional assurance regarding the effectiveness of workforce deployment and service delivery

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Patient Experience Team
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a smoke-free site

Trust Chair Graham Ward
Chief Executive Jon Melbourne

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: <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.

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.

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.