

King's Mill Hospital
Mansfield Road
Sutton in Ashfield
Nottinghamshire
NG17 4JL

Tel: 01623 622515
Join today: www.sfh-tr.nhs.uk

Direct Line: 01623 672232
Our Ref: 1593
E-mail: sfh-tr.foi.requests@nhs.net

23rd September 2026

[REDACTED]

Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000 - Request for Information Reference: birth reflections service - access, ethnicity and interpreting provision

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.

Home, Community, Hospital.

FOI Request / Question	Question Response	Is there an exemption?	Exemption	Exemption Details
Section A — Service overview 1. Does your organisation provide a birth reflections/debriefing service? If yes, please state: a. Which staff group(s) deliver it (e.g. midwife, consultant obstetrician, psychologist) b. The format(s) offered (face-to-face, telephone, video) c. Whether partners are able to attend	Yes. Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust provides a Birth Afterthoughts Service. The service is delivered as part of the Professional Midwifery Advocate (PMA) Service. a. The service is primarily delivered by a Professional Midwifery Advocate (PMA) and supported by the Consultant Midwife where appropriate. The Trust has a dedicated 0.4 WTE Band 7 Professional Midwifery Advocate allocated to the service. b. The service is offered through scheduled appointments. Clinics are currently held: - Monday afternoon - Friday morning - Friday afternoon Appointments are predominantly provided on a face-to-face basis, with alternative arrangements (telephone/video) considered where appropriate. c. Yes. Partners are welcome to attend appointments. The service is available to women and their partners			

	to explore and understand their experience of maternity care.			
Section B — Activity and ethnicity 2. The total number of referrals to the service per year.	This information is not routinely collated and is therefore not held by the Trust.			
3. The total number of birth reflections consultations completed per year.	This information is not routinely collated and is therefore not held by the Trust.			
4. The number of patients seen by the service per year, broken down by ethnic group using ONS ethnicity categories. If ethnicity is not recorded for this service, please state this.	The Trust does not routinely collect or report ethnicity data specifically for the Birth Afterthoughts Service. Therefore, this information is not held.			
Section C — Interpreting need and provision 5. The number of birth reflections consultations per year in which an interpreter was requested or required, and the number in which one was provided.	This information is not routinely recorded for the service and is therefore not held.			
6. The languages requested, if recorded.	This information is not routinely recorded for the service and is therefore not held.			
7. The interpreting provision available for this service (e.g. in-person interpreter, telephone interpreting, video interpreting, bilingual staff), and your organisation's policy on the use of family members as interpreters in these consultations.	The Birth Afterthoughts Service can access the Trust's standard interpreting services, including telephone, video and face-to-face interpreting provision, in line with Trust policy and arrangements for all patient-facing services.			

3

Home, Community, Hospital.

Patient Experience Team
01623 672222
sfh-tr.pet@nhs.net



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Trust Chair Rukshana Kapasi OBE
Chief Executive Jon Melbourne

	Family members are not routinely used to provide interpretation for clinical consultations except in accordance with Trust policy and exceptional circumstances.			
8. Whether written information about the service (invitation letters, leaflets, referral information) is available in languages other than English, and if so, which languages.	The service leaflet is routinely produced in English. Alternative formats and languages can be requested through the Trust's translation and accessibility services where required.			
Section D — Other accessibility provision 9. The number of consultations per year in which British Sign Language (BSL) interpretation was requested and the number in which it was provided, and what provision exists for deaf and hearing-impaired patients.	The number of consultations requiring BSL interpretation is not routinely recorded by the service and therefore this information is not held. The service can access Trust-wide communication support services for deaf and hearing-impaired patients, including BSL interpretation and other reasonable communication adjustments as required.			
10. What reasonable adjustments are available for neurodivergent patients and patients with learning disabilities accessing this service (e.g. easy-read materials, extended appointments, sensory adjustments, communication passports), and whether the number of such adjustments made is recorded.	The service can provide reasonable adjustments in line with Trust-wide arrangements. These may include: • Flexible appointment arrangements. • Extended appointment times where clinically appropriate. • Carer, advocate or support person attendance. • Accessible communication methods.			

	Access to Learning Disability and Autism support services where required. The number of reasonable adjustments made for this service is not routinely recorded.			
Section E — Equality monitoring 11. Whether the service routinely collects or monitors equality data on access and uptake (e.g. by ethnicity, language need, deprivation), and whether any equity audit or health inequalities review of this service has been undertaken in the last three years. If so, please provide a copy or summary.	The Birth Afterthoughts Service does not routinely collect or monitor equality data specifically relating to access, uptake, ethnicity, language needs or deprivation. The service has not undertaken a specific equity audit or health inequalities review within the last three years. No reports are therefore held by the Trust in relation to this request.			

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.