

10/05/2021

Dear Requester,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request.

In accordance with S.1 (1) (a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), I can confirm that we do hold the information relevant to your request.

You asked:

1. Can you tell me what guidance or material midwives or specialist midwives are given for consideration regarding caesarean sections?

This could include - research, the cost of a caesarean and related medical procedures for the hospital/Trust or NHS. If research, please include a brief description - for example, whether the research relates to a possible link between a c-section and autism in children. [The Trust use NICE guidance, no specific research](#)

2. Please breakdown whether staff are advised whether to share this information with a patient or not (it may be left up to them of course). [Staff encouraged to share all relevant research based information with women to ensure that women are fully informed, advising them of the risks and benefits of their chosen mode of delivery. Discussion supported with relevant documentation tools](#)

3. Please confirm whether medical staff (including doctors, nurses and midwives) have targets or measured in any other way in terms of the number of caesareans carried out at the hospitals. [None](#)

4. If there are targets or performance measurement, what are these please and what have the figures been for the last three years? [N/A](#)

If you are not satisfied with the Trust review under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Officer (ICO) for a review of your appeal decision. The ICO can be contacted at: ICO, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF www.ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

IG/FOI Coordinator

This information is provided for your personal use and is the property of Bedfordshire Hospitals NHS Trust and subject to any existing Intellectual Property and Database Rights. Any commercial application or use of this information may be subject to the provisions of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015 (RPSI). This means that if you wish to re-use the information provided for commercial purposes for any reason you must ask the Trust for permission to do so.

Please note that the Trust has a formal internal review and complaints process which is managed by the Information Governance Manager/Data Protection Officer. Should you have any concerns with our response, you can make a formal request for an internal review.

Requests *for internal review* should be submitted within three months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter, and should be addressed to: dataprotectionofficer@ldh.nhs.uk