Outstanding Care,
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NHS
Sherwood Forest Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

King's Mill Hospital
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NG17 4JL

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29th October 2026

[redacted]

Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000 - Request for Information Reference: [redacted]
home birth request

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.

FOI Request / Question	Question Response	Is there an exemption?	Exemption	Exemption Details
1. If your Trust does not have a dedicated home birth team, did you previously have one that has been dismantled within the last 10 years?	No			
2. Have you been able to provide home birth services 24 hours a day, seven days a week without any suspensions, pauses, restrictions or limitations to that ability in the last 12 months ending August 2026? If that period is not available, please provide figures for the most recent 12 months available and specify what period they cover.	No			
3. Please list the number of suspensions and restrictions to home birth services in this period, the dates on which these occurred, the terms of each suspension/restriction (full, partial) and reason(s) for each suspension and restriction.	All suspensions were partial for 12 hours during the night but retained full cover for the daytime period. Reason for all suspensions were staff sickness or first-trimester pregnancies within workforce 15/09/25, 16/09/25, 17/09/25, 26/9/25 14/10/25, 23/10/25 24/11/25, 26/11/25 5/12/25, 12/12/25, 15/12/25 07/01/26, 14/1/26, 30/1/26 19/2/26, 26/2/26 21/04/26, 27/04/26			

Patient Experience Team
01623 672222
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Chief Executive Jon Melbourne

	07/05/26, 08/05/26, 28/05/26 08/06/26, 26/06/26 03/07/26, 06/07/26 22/07/26 10/08/26, 20/08/26 Percentage uncovered for the period 08/25 – 08/26 = 3.7% Percentage covered for the period = 96.3%			
4. During this period, were there any occasions where the Trust was unable to send midwives to attend a home birth due to unforeseen circumstances (such staffing shortage, sickness, emergency redeployment, lack of available midwives)? Please state how many times this occurred and, if recorded, the reason(s).	2 occasions – Both occasions were due to lack of available midwives as the team were already out at another homebirth			
5. How many home births have been attended by midwives in the Trust in this period, including those resulting in intrapartum and/or postnatal transfer into hospital and those resulting in a baby being born at home with no transfer-in?	61			

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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: 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.

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