

Ref FOI17 098  
Date 18 April 2017

Dear Sir/Madam

**Request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000**

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Please find below/attached the Isle of Wight NHS Trust's response to your request.

Please provide the following information

NICE published the safe staffing guideline 'Safe midwife staffing for maternity settings' on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2015. The guideline makes recommendations on supporting, determining and monitoring safe midwife staffing requirements for maternity care provided across all settings. The guideline includes recommendations which are aimed at Trust Boards, senior managers and commissioners, which brings me to the information that we are seeking with this request. In order to better understand how the guideline is being implemented at Trust level I would be grateful if you could provide the following information.

**Information for the period 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016**

- 1. For the period 1st July 2016 to 31st December 2016, when did your Trust Board last review, as an agenda item, the midwifery staffing establishment for your Trust's maternity services?**

The Trust Board papers are all held electronically and open to the public for viewing purposes on the Isle of Wight NHS Trust Website. Please see link - <http://www.iow.nhs.uk/about-us/our-trust-board/2016-board-papers.htm>

None of the Board meetings within this time frame reviewed the midwifery staffing establishment for the Trust's maternity services.

- 2. What were the main findings of this review?**

N/A – Same as Above

**3. What if any recommendations did the review make about midwifery staffing?**

N/A – Same as Above

**4. What decisions did the Board make in relation to any recommendations arising from the review?**

N/A – Same as Above

**5. Please specify the name of any workforce planning tool that was used to inform the review?**

N/A

**6. Did the review include analysis of any midwifery red flag events that may have occurred in this period?**

N/A

**7. If so, how many and what type of midwifery red flag events were reported to the Board?**

N/A

**8. During this period how many red flag events were initially reported by service users and how many by maternity services staff?**

N/A

**9. What if any actions did the Board agree on in response to the reported midwifery red flag events?**

N/A

**10. Did the Head of Midwifery or Director of Midwifery present to the Board in person as part of the review?**

N/A

**Information for the period 1st January 2016 to 30th June 2016**

**11. For the period 1st January 2016 to 30th June 2016, when did your Trust Board last review, as an agenda item, the midwifery staffing establishment for your Trust's maternity services?**

March 2016

**12. What were the main findings of this review?**

The ratio of midwife to mothers is 1:32 which is higher than the recommendation of 1:28 by RCM and higher than neighbouring Trusts when benchmarked.

**13. What if any recommendations did the review make about midwifery staffing?**

Maternity services on the island benefit from an integrated service and the Head of Midwifery provides assurance of the standards and indicators achieved in the service. Key performance indicators such as training are green rated and there is no concern about this higher ratio and this will continue to be reviewed through the safer staffing café's.

**14. What decisions did the Board make in relation to any recommendations arising from the review?**

N/A

**15. Please specify the name of any workforce planning tool that was used to inform the review?**

N/A

**16. Did the review include analysis of any midwifery red flag events that may have occurred in this period?**

N/A

**17. If so, how many and what type of midwifery red flag events were reported to the Board?**

N/A

**18. During this period how many red flag events were initially reported by service users and how many by maternity services staff?**

N/A

**19. What if any actions did the Board agree on in response to the reported midwifery red flag events?**

N/A

**20. Did the Head of Midwifery or Director of Midwifery present to the Board in person as part of the review?**

No

**Please note the Isle of Wight NHS Trust came into existence on the 1.4.12 therefore we do not hold information prior to this date. If you require information prior to this date please contact the Department of Health.**

**Please note that this response does not constitute as consent for direct marketing.**

**A copy of this response will be published on the Trust website.**

**We would like to bring to your attention the unique set up of the Isle of Wight NHS Trust which serves a resident population of 140,000 with a substantial influx of tourists during the summer months. The Trust provides acute, ambulance, community, maternity, mental health services on the Isle of Wight. As the only fully integrated service provider in England with this unique range of services comparisons with other service providers are not always straightforward and may result in higher or lower reporting data.**

This letter also confirms the completion of this request. A log of this request will be held on a database by the Trust. All hard copy correspondence relating to this request will be held for one year from the date of this letter, before being confidentially destroyed.

If you are unhappy about the response you have received your first line of action should be to write and request the Trust to undertake an internal review of your application. A senior member of staff, who was not involved with your initial application, will undertake this review. If after this

process you are still not satisfied with the response you receive from the Trust you can complain to the Information Commissioner at the following address:

Information Commissioner  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Please do not hesitate to contact this office if you have any further questions.

Yours faithfully

Freedom of Information Team