



30 June 2023

Email:

Dear

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST**

**Request No:** 06701-23

**Subject:** Maternity related calls

**Request:**                   **Date Received:**                   01/02/2023  
                                  **Date of Monitoring:**               02/02/2023

Thank you for your request for information received on 1 February 2023 which was dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS) Health and Social Care Trust has now completed its search for the information you requested.

The Trust would fully apologise for the delay in the provision of the information and for your patience with this.

The information source is the Trust's Command and Control system where 999 calls and presenting complaint/s from the caller at the time of the call are recorded. Please refer to the criteria used in the information provided and note that this information relies on what is provided by the caller at the time of the call therefore the complete accuracy of this is not guaranteed.

For the calendar year 2022 please provide the following:

**Question 1**

The number of maternity related calls you received and what percentage of your total calls this equates to

**Question 2**

The number of babies you delivered

**Question 3**

The number of cases of

- a) Post-partum haemorrhage
- b) Breech birth
- c) Shoulder dystocia
- d) Cord prolapse
- e) Neonatal resuscitation
- f) Women you attended in labour



**Answer 1, 2 3 (a),(b),(c),(d)(f)**

Please refer to the attached excel document entitled FOI-06701-23\_Maternity 2022 Summary for the requested data.

**Answer 3 – 3(e) Refusal Notice**

As stated, the data provided has been extracted from the Trust's Command and Control system, however neo-natal resuscitations are not recorded in that system. To extract this information we would have to access clinical records captured in another system known as FORMIC to source and manipulate the information. We would have to cross reference both systems to extract the requested data.

Section 12 of the FOIA provides an exemption from a public authority's obligation to comply with a request for information where the cost of compliance is estimated to exceed the *appropriate limit*. To answer Question 3E above would exceed the Freedom of Information Act 2000 appropriate fee limit.

We estimate that the cost of complying with your request would exceed the appropriate limit of £450.00/18 hours. The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations. Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Trust is therefore not obliged to comply with your request. It is currently estimated that to extract the data and to manual review two separate electronic recording systems would take more than 18 hours.

This section of the letter acts as a refusal notice under section 17(5) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to Question 3E above.

Please note that as this exemption has been applied, the Trust would have the right not to respond to the overall request, however, in the spirit of openness and transparency we have provided information for other questions.

I hope the above fully assists you. Please note that, under the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations, if you wish to publish or otherwise use this information besides for your own means, you will need to seek our permission to do so.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review. You should do this as soon as possible, or in any case within two months of the date of issue of this letter.

In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to the Director of Planning, Performance and Corporate Services, Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS) HSC Trust, Site 30, Knockbracken Healthcare Park, Saintfield Road, Belfast, BT8 8SG.

If following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision maker, you remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request, you may make a complaint under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate whether the Trust has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act.

You can write to the Information Commissioner at:

**Website:** [ni@ico.org.uk](mailto:ni@ico.org.uk)

**Post:** Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, CHESHIRE SK9 5AF

**Telephone:** 028 9027 8757 or 0303 123 1114 (Belfast based Office)

In most circumstances the Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out. However the Commissioner has the option to investigate the matter at his discretion. Please be advised that NIAS replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ <http://www.niamb.co.uk>. Personal details in respect of your request will have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.

Yours sincerely

*(not signed – issued by email)*

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**Information Governance  
Team**