

Interpreters for Maternity

Reference Number: RDF1228-23

Date of Response: 09/02/2023

Further to your Freedom of Information Act request, please find the Trust's response(s) below:

1. [How many women in the maternity service were identified as needing an interpreter in financial year 2020/2021 and 2021/2022.](#)

Eastern Service Answer- The Trust has considered your request, however, due to the large number of requests received in the East, the trust records the language, but not the department. To provide you with the information requested would require the review of all of the requests individually. Therefore, to carry out this work would exceed the appropriate cost limit as set out in Section 12 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is therefore exempt.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 Section 12 (1) and defined in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004, a public authority is not obliged to comply with a request for information if it estimates that the cost of complying would exceed the appropriate limit. The limit of £450 represents the estimated cost of one person spending two and a half days in determining whether the Trust holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting that information.

Northern Service Answer: The figures below are the number of contacts from invoices received (some patients have used interpretation services on more than one occasion).

Number of women for 20/21: 38

Number of women for 21/22: 43

2. [How many face to face /telephone /video interpreter sessions were conducted in the maternity services \(antenatal, labour, postnatal\) in financial year 2020/2021 and 2021/2022.](#)

Joint Eastern and Northern service Answer: This information is not held by the Trust. We do not record this information at the time of booking.

3. What was the annual spend on interpreter sessions in maternity services in financial year 2020/2021 and 2021/2022.

Please see table below.

Please note for Eastern Service: The figures provided for the Eastern Services have been coded to cost centre Maternity – Admin. When invoices are received, they need to be coded to the correct cost centre. This is why we can provide the cost related to the Maternity Services because of the financial processes already in place.

Please note: For Northern Services, the figures quoted relate to invoices, it is not easy to distinguish. As such both interpretation services related to midwifery and obstetrics have been included.

| Service Area | FY 20/21 | FY 21/22 |
|--------------|-----------|--|
| Eastern | £8,728 | £31,105 £15K is for BSL (British Sign Language) interpretation. |
| Northern | £1,918.50 | £2,755.06 |