

## Closed Units / Wards

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Reference Number: RDF1103-22

Date of Response: 13/12/2022

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

Have any of the following services been closed at your Trust due to staffing issues between November 2021 and October 2022 (inclusive): If so, I would be grateful if you could let me know how long the unit was closed for?

### 1. Birth Centre/Maternity Unit/Ward

The Eastern unit has only ever had 1 closure within the time period specified in your request. This was only between 11pm- 5 am. The Trust Maternity unit has never closed before. The maternity manager on call was in and working during this time. A midwife was redeployed from North to assist.

The Northern unit had no maternity closure in this period.

### 2. Breast imaging unit/Ward-

The Breast Care Unit has not closed entirely during this period. The unit provides a wide range of services including inpatient, emergency, outpatient and day-case that is delivered by multidisciplinary teams. On several occasions we have been on skeleton staff and only running essential inpatient and day-case services. Our radiographer establishment has been between 0.4 and 0.75 for most of the past year with full establishment only being reached in Jan 2022 following overseas recruitment. This has challenged our ability to deliver all planned outpatient activity to time and target.

The Northern unit had no closure in this period.

### 3. Stroke and rehabilitation Unit/Ward.

The Eastern area of the Trust units never closed during the time period specified.

The Northern unit had no closure in this period.

### 4. Dialysis Unit/Ward

We had significant staffing challenges in our dialysis units in Honiton, Torbay, Heavitree and Wonford during the time period specified in your request. The units did not close but had reduced hours on some days in that week. All patients were accommodated by either moving to a different unit or changing to another day if medical review felt this was appropriate. A Trust risk assessment was done and signed off at Gold Command. The Northern unit had no closure in this period.