

## Title: Caesarean Sections / Stillbirths

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Reference Number: RDF1102-22

Date of Response: 21/12/22

Further to your Freedom of Information Act request, please find the Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (Eastern Services and Northern Services) response(s) below:

- Please release figures detailing the number of caesarean sections carried out by the Trust between 1st June 2021 and 30th November 2022. Please categorise the data by elective, planned and emergency sections per month. I would like the data in these categories as the actual numbers and as a percentage of the total births that month.*

Answer: Please see tables overleaf representing responses from the Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust Eastern Services and Northern Services.

In accordance with Section 40 (2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we are unable to provide figures where the number of patients is less than or equal to five and could risk the identification of those patients and breach Caldicott principles. In these cases  $\leq 5$  is used to indicate that a figure between 1 and 5 is being suppressed.

This follows NHS Digital (formerly HSCIC) analysis guidance (2014) which states that small numbers within local authorities, wards, postcode districts, CCG's providers and Trusts may allow identification of patients and should not be published.

| <b>Northern Services</b><br>actual numbers and as<br>a percentage of | <b>Jun-21</b> |    | <b>Jul-21</b> |    | <b>Aug-21</b> |    | <b>Sep-21</b> |    | <b>Oct-21</b> |    | <b>Nov-21</b> |    | <b>Dec-21</b> |    |
|--|---------------|----|---------------|----|---------------|----|---------------|----|---------------|----|---------------|----|---------------|----|
| <i>Elective caesarean section rate</i>                               | 15%           | 18 | 11%           | 14 | 17%           | 17 | 14%           | 14 | 14%           | 17 | 9.8%          | 10 | 8.9%          | 9  |
| <i>Emergency caesarean section rate</i>                              | 22%           | 27 | 27%           | 35 | 17%           | 17 | 24%           | 24 | 22%           | 26 | 24%           | 25 | 24%           | 25 |
| <i>Births per month</i>  | 120           |    | 127           |    | 96            |    | 98            |    | 117           |    | 102           |    | 101           |    |
|  | <b>Jan-22</b> |    | <b>Feb-22</b> |    | <b>Mar-22</b> |    | <b>Apr-22</b> |    | <b>May-22</b> |    | <b>Jun-22</b> |    | <b>Jul-22</b> |    |
|  | 10%           | 12 | 18%           | 16 | 15%           | 18 | 12%           | 11 | 15%           | 15 | 10%           | 10 | 13%           | 13 |
|  | 15%           | 17 | 20%           | 17 | 23%           | 28 | 16%           | 15 | 19%           | 19 | 23%           | 22 | 15%           | 15 |
|  | 112           |    | 85            |    | 119           |    | 90            |    | 100           |    | 93            |    | 100           |    |
|  | <b>Aug-22</b> |    | <b>Sep-22</b> |    | <b>Oct-22</b> |    | <b>Nov-22</b> |    |               |    |               |    |               |    |
|  | 25%           | 29 | 20%           | 24 | 19%           | 20 | 16%           | 18 |               |    |               |    |               |    |
|  | 14%           | 16 | 15%           | 18 | 23%           | 24 | 19%           | 21 |               |    |               |    |               |    |
|  | 113           |    | 120           |    | 102           |    | 110           |    |               |    |               |    |               |    |

| <b>Eastern Services</b><br>actual numbers and as<br>a percentage of | <b>Jun-21</b> |    | <b>Jul-21</b> |    | <b>Aug-21</b> |    | <b>Sep-21</b> |    | <b>Oct-21</b> |    | <b>Nov-21</b> |    | <b>Dec-21</b> |    |
|---|---------------|----|---------------|----|---------------|----|---------------|----|---------------|----|---------------|----|---------------|----|
| <i>Elective caesarean section rate/No.</i>                          | 18%           | 53 | 16%           | 62 | 12%           | 40 | 13%           | 48 | 14%           | 45 | 14%           | 47 | 18%           | 53 |
| <i>Emergency caesarean section rate/No.</i>                         | 12%           | 35 | 11%           | 42 | 15%           | 50 | 16%           | 59 | 15%           | 47 | 15%           | 51 | 13%           | 39 |
| <i>Births per month</i>   | 288           |    | 370           |    | 320           |    | 350           |    | 308           |    | 326           |    | 288           |    |
|   | <b>Jan-22</b> |    | <b>Feb-22</b> |    | <b>Mar-22</b> |    | <b>Apr-22</b> |    | <b>May-22</b> |    | <b>Jun-22</b> |    | <b>Jul-22</b> |    |
|   | 13%           | 39 | 16%           | 43 | 14%           | 46 | 12%           | 40 | 16%           | 53 | 15%           | 47 | 14%           | 46 |
|   | 10%           | 30 | 9.7%          | 26 | 14%           | 44 | 12%           | 39 | 12%           | 40 | 13%           | 43 | 10%           | 33 |
|   | 280           |    | 267           |    | 308           |    | 318           |    | 314           |    | 309           |    | 313           |    |
|   | <b>Aug-22</b> |    | <b>Sep-22</b> |    | <b>Oct-22</b> |    | <b>Nov-22</b> |    |               |    |               |    |               |    |
|   | 17.0%         | 49 | 15.5%         | 48 | 13.5%         | 44 | 16.1%         | 42 |               |    |               |    |               |    |
|   | 11.4%         | 33 | 12.0%         | 37 | 12.6%         | 41 | 10.7%         | 28 |               |    |               |    |               |    |
|   | 289           |    | 309           |    | 325           |    | 261           |    |               |    |               |    |               |    |

2. *Please release figures detailing the number of still births and neonatal deaths at the Trust between 1st June 2021 and 30th November 2022 categorised by c-section or vaginal delivery. Question text (all Arial 12 Italic)*

Answer: Please see tables below.

| <b>North Devon District Hospital</b> | <b>Jun-21</b> | <b>Jul-21</b> | <b>Aug-21</b> | <b>Sep-21</b> | <b>Oct-21</b> | <b>Nov-21</b> | <b>Dec-21</b> | <b>Jan-22</b> | <b>Feb-22</b> | <b>Mar-22</b> | <b>Apr-22</b> | <b>May-22</b> | <b>Jun-22</b> | <b>Jul-22</b> | <b>Aug-22</b> | <b>Sep-22</b> | <b>Oct-22</b> | <b>Nov-22</b> |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Still births</b>                  | ≤5            | 0             | ≤5            | 0             | ≤5            | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | ≤5            | ≤5            | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | ≤5            | 0             |
| <b>Delivery method</b>               | *             | -             | *             | -             | *             | -             | -             | -             | -             | -             | *             | *             | -             | -             | -             | -             | *             | -             |
| <b>Neonatal deaths</b>               | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | ≤5            | 0             | 0             | 0             |
| <b>Delivery method</b>               | -             | -             | -             | -             | -             | -             | -             | -             | -             | -             | -             | -             | -             | -             | *             | -             | -             | -             |

\* To protect patient confidentiality this data is summarised, in no particular order, of the following delivery methods:

- C Section
- Spontaneous other cephalic
- Spontaneous vertex

| <b>Royal Devon &amp; Exeter Hospital</b> | <b>Jun-21</b> | <b>Jul-21</b> | <b>Aug-21</b> | <b>Sep-21</b> | <b>Oct-21</b> | <b>Nov-21</b> | <b>Dec-21</b> | <b>Jan-22</b> | <b>Feb-22</b> | <b>Mar-22</b> | <b>Apr-22</b> | <b>May-22</b> | <b>Jun-22</b> | <b>Jul-22</b> | <b>Aug-22</b> | <b>Sep-22</b> | <b>Oct-22</b> | <b>Nov-22</b> |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Still births</b>                      | ≤5            | ≤5            | ≤5            | ≤5            | ≤5            | ≤5            | ≤5            | 0             | ≤5            | 0             | ≤5            | ≤5            | ≤5            | 0             | 0             | ≤5            | 0             | ≤5            |
| <b>Delivery method</b>                   | *             | *             | *             | *             | *             | *             | *             | -             | *             | -             | *             | *             | *             | -             | -             | *             | -             | *             |
| <b>Neonatal deaths</b>                   | ≤5            | ≤5            | 0             | ≤5            | 0             | ≤5            | ≤5            | 0             | ≤5            | 0             | ≤5            | 0             | ≤5            | ≤5            | ≤5            | 0             | ≤5            | ≤5            |
| <b>Delivery method</b>                   | *             | *             | -             | *             | -             | *             | *             | -             | *             | -             | *             | -             | *             | *             | *             | -             | *             | *             |

\* To protect patient confidentiality this data is summarised, in no particular order, of the following delivery methods:

- Ventouse
- Vaginal Spontaneous
- Vaginal Breech
- Vaginal
- C - Section Emergency
- C - Section Elective
- FD C-Section Elective
- Vaginal Spontaneous