

## Title

# Maternity care for survivors of sexual abuse and/or sexual violence

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Reference Number: RDF1061

Date of Response: 15/12/2022

**FOI request - maternity care for survivors of sexual abuse and/or sexual violence**

I am undertaking a FOI request across all UK NHS Hospital Trust/ Health Boards, with the aim of creating a picture of the maternity service provision for survivors of sexual violence and/or sexual abuse.

I would be very grateful if you could complete this survey on behalf of your NHS organisation. Please include information about community services, in addition to acute services.

Some of the information may need to be collected from specific midwives or obstetricians within your organisation.

I also include a few questions about staff training and resources in relation to your whole organisation so that a broad comparison between maternity and other departments within your organisation can be made.

### Maternity staff training and support

1. Please indicate if your Trust /Health Board provides the following training to all midwives

	Yes / No
Mandatory training about the causes and consequences of sexual violence and sexual abuse	Yes
Mandatory training about providing trauma informed care	Yes

2. Please indicate if your Trust /Health Board provides the following training to all nurses who provide care during early pregnancy [including termination of pregnancy]

	Yes / No
Mandatory training about the causes and consequences of sexual violence and sexual abuse	Yes
Mandatory training about providing trauma informed care	Yes

3. Please indicate if your Trust /Health Board provides the following training to all nurses (if any) who are employed within maternity to provide care during pregnancy [during antenatal and postnatal periods]

	NA
Mandatory training about the causes and consequences of sexual violence and sexual abuse	
Mandatory training about providing trauma informed care	
No nurses are employed in this role	

4. Please indicate if your Trust /Health Board provides the following training to all anaesthetists who work within maternity

	Yes / No
Mandatory training about the causes and consequences of sexual violence and sexual abuse	Yes Eastern area of the Trust , No Northern area of Trust.
Mandatory training about providing trauma informed care	Yes Eastern area, No Northern area.

5. Please indicate if your Trust /Health Board provides the following training to all obstetricians and gynaecologists

	Yes / No
Mandatory training about the causes and consequences of sexual violence and sexual abuse	Yes
Mandatory training about providing trauma informed care	Yes Eastern area , No Northern area.

6. Please indicate if your Trust /Health Board provides the following training to all Lactation Consultants / Infant Feeding Specialists

	Yes / No
Mandatory training about the causes and consequences of sexual violence and sexual abuse	Yes
Mandatory training about providing trauma informed care	Yes

**7. Please indicate if your Trust / Health Board provides the following training to all support staff working within maternity [HCAs / MSWs]**

	Yes / No
<b>Mandatory training about the causes and consequences of sexual violence and sexual abuse</b>	Yes
<b>Mandatory training about providing trauma informed care</b>	Yes

**8. Please indicate if your Trust / Health Board provides the following training to all sonographers**

	Yes / No
<b>Mandatory training about the causes and consequences of sexual violence and sexual abuse</b>	Yes Eastern area, no Northern area.
<b>Mandatory training about providing trauma informed care</b>	Yes Eastern area, No Northern area.

**9. Does your Trust /Health Board have a SARC referral centre on site?  
No Eastern area of the Trust, Yes Northern area of the Trust.**

**Do you provide specific training in relation to SARC referrals to the relevant members of the maternity team?** – Not applicable to Eastern area of the Trust. Yes for Northern area of the Trust..

**10. Does your Health Board / Trust have any specific maternity related resources that staff can use to support them / guide them in providing care to survivors who have disclosed? [please circle] Yes .**

**11. Please provide as much detail as you are able to about the resources [then go to q.14]**

- Direct access to the Safeguarding/MH/Complex Care Team and referral pathways to access the relevant support required on an individual basis.
- Domestic abuse Intranet with direct access and referral to Health IDVA, National **Domestic Abuse Helpline, SPLITZ, Devon & Cornwall SARC – Intranet guidance** regarding pathways.& accessibility
- Safeguarding Domestic Abuse policies and relevant referral guidance flowchart.
- Employee resolution and support team have been trained on this and trauma affects

**12. Are there any plans in place to create / obtain such maternity related resources? If yes, please state in as much detail as you are able to**

- The Trust does not hold this information.

**13. Do you provide any specific support to maternity staff members who themselves are survivors of sexual violence and/or sexual abuse? Yes**

**14. Please describe the support in as much detail as you are able [then go to q.17]**

- See Q12.....There is a separate domestic abuse policy for staff

**15. Are there any plans in place to create / obtain such maternity related resources? If yes, please state in as much detail as you are able to**

- N/A

#### **Specialist maternity roles**

**16. Does your Trust /Health Board have a SARC referral centre on site? [please circle]**

Yes to Northern area of the Trust, No to Eastern area of the Trust.

**17. Do you provide specific training in relation to SARC referrals to the relevant members of the maternity team? – Not applicable for Eastern area of the Trust..**

For the Safeguarding Team including Specialist Nurses Children and Young People, Specialist Nurses Adult – IDVA- Specialist Nurse Safeguarding SARC and Sexual Health.

Safeguarding Link Practitioners and Safeguarding Supervisors with additional training in Domestic abuse and sexual violence.

**18. Does your Health Board / Trust have any specific maternity related resources that staff can use to support them / guide them in providing care to survivors who have disclosed? Yes .**

**19. Please provide as much detail as you are able to about the resources [then go to q.14]**

- Direct access to the Safeguarding/MH/Complex Care Team and referral pathways to access the relevant support required on an individual basis.
- Domestic abuse Intranet with direct access and referral to Health IDVA, National Domestic Abuse Helpline, SPLITZ, Devon & Cornwall SARC – Intranet guidance regarding pathways.& accessibility
- Safeguarding Domestic Abuse policies and relevant referral guidance flowchart.
- Employee resolution and support team have been trained on this and trauma affects

**20. Are there any plans in place to create / obtain such maternity related resources? If yes, please state in as much detail as you are able to**

The Trust does not hold this information.

**21. Do you provide any specific support to maternity staff members who themselves are survivors of sexual violence and/or sexual abuse? Yes**

**22. Please describe the support in as much detail as you are able [then go to q.17]**

See Q12.....There is a separate domestic abuse policy for staff

**23. Are there any plans in place to create / obtain such maternity related resources? If yes, please state in as much detail as you are able to**

N/A

#### **Specialist maternity roles**

**24. Does your Trust/Health Board have any members of staff within your maternity department who provide specialist services / guidance to colleagues in relation to care for survivors of sexual violence and/or sexual abuse? Yes.**

**25. Please state which members of the maternity team provide these services and what further training they receive in order to undertake this role. Please state if no further training is undertaken [please then go to q. 20]**

Safeguarding Team, safeguarding midwife – Health IDVA

They have undertaken extensive safeguarding and DA training. Health IDVA has undertaken specialist sexual violence training. Experience and discussion of cases has developed awareness and some expertise. Training also being given to HR colleagues. Training constantly under review at Domestic Abuse operational group and in response to any incidents.

**26. Please describe how members of the maternity team are supported to ensure that survivors of sexual violence and /or sexual abuse receive the maternity care that they require**

- Attendance at Mandatory Safeguarding Annual Updates
- Direct Access to the Safeguarding Team – Health IDVA all details held on Trust Intranet
- Safeguarding Supervision All as per question 12.

- Making every contact count – elearning

#### Clinical care provision within maternity

- 27. Are women who disclose domestic violence or abuse routinely asked if they have experienced sexual violence or sexual abuse?.** Yes.
- 28. Does your Health Board / Trust provide any maternity specific specialist clinical or support services for survivors? [Examples could include information leaflets, specialist clinics, care pathways, peer support groups, infant feeding support, flagging system on clinical notes]** Yes.
- 29. Please provide as much detail as you are able to about these services**
- QR Codes are placed on discreet posters (restrooms) Electronic Patient Records (flagging system).
  - Referral to Consultant Led Care
  - Complex Care Midwife
  - Referral to the Safeguarding Team, MASH referral
  - Liaison forms for Adults and Children, sent direct to the County Council Team
- 30. Do you collect demographic information about who accesses these services?** Yes.

**31. Please provide as much demographic information as you are able [then go to q.26]**

The Trust has considered your request, however to provide you with the information requested would require the manual extraction and manipulation of information from various sources. A large variety of women would need in depth report and audit to get this data. 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.

**32. Are there any plans in place to develop any specialist services? If so, please provide as much detail as you are able.**

The Trust does not hold this information.

Organisation details

33. [Organisation wide] Does your Trust/Health Board have any members of staff across your organisation who provide specialist services / guidance to colleagues in relation to care for survivors of sexual violence and/or sexual abuse?. Yes.

34. Please state who provides these services and what training they receive. Please state if they do not receive any further training. See Q12

35. [Organisation wide] Please indicate if your Trust /Health Board provides the following training to all clinical staff

	Yes / No
Mandatory training about the causes and consequences of sexual violence and sexual abuse	Yes
Mandatory training about providing trauma informed care	Yes

36. [Organisation wide] Does your Health Board / Trust have any generic or other speciality specific resources that staff across your organisation can use to support them / guide them in providing care to survivors who have disclosed? [please circle]. Yes.

37. Please provide as much detail as you are able to about the resources [then please go to q.32]. As per question 22.

38. Are there any plans in place to create / obtain such resources? If yes, please state in as much detail as you are able to. More training is being planned for HR/Employee resolution and support team.

39. Please state the name of the NHS organisation completing this survey

Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Trust (Eastern Site and Northern site).