

Information Governance Manager  
Room 2.03  
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Queen Alexandra Hospital  
Southwick Hill Road  
Portsmouth  
Hampshire  
PO6 3LY

Tel: 023 9228 6000

Ref: 16-17 058  
Date: 10 June 2016

Dear

**Request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000**

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Please find below the Trust's response to your request.

**For the past three years - from January 2013 up until the date this request was received - please can you tell me?**

**a) The number of times labour wards were closed (and if possible, the reason or closure);**

The Trust does not record this information.

**b) On those occasions, which maternity units were expectant mothers transferred to?**

The labour wards within the acute site and maternity centres are not closed, however women may be directed to a place of birth which may not be their first choice of place of birth but would provide the same provision of care. This may be due to unforeseen staff absence (short term) or may be due to the acuity of women and the priority to ensure safe care for all women within the service.

This letter also confirms completion of the request. Please note that copies of this request will be held on file for three years before being confidentially destroyed.

If you have any concerns regarding the response you have received, you may ask the Trust to conduct an internal review. For further information on the Freedom of Information Act, including details of appeals and complaints, please contact the Information Commissioner's Office at the following address:

Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF  
Tel: 08456 30 60 60

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## Applicant Satisfaction Survey

It is important to the Trust that you are satisfied with the way in which your request was handled. There is an [Applicant Satisfaction Survey](#) available on our website and we would be grateful if you could spend a short time to comment on your request.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Yours sincerely

Abigail

**Abigail Mahoney**

Risk and Governance Administrator

**Portsmouth Hospital NHS Trust**

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