

<b>Reference:</b>	FOI.10595.23
<b>Subject:</b>	Births and maternity patient records
<b>Date of Request:</b>	28 December 2022

**Requested:**

When providing responses to the questions, please break down the figures for each hospital within your Hospital Trust. This may be best achieved by providing separate response sheets.

For the time period 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022, if you do not have figures available for the whole period, please provide the most up-to-date figures and state the period they cover.

Please fill in your answers on the Excel spreadsheet provided (if possible)

Hospital Trust \_\_\_\_\_

Hospital \_\_\_\_\_

**LIVE BIRTHS**

1. How many live births were there at your hospital Trust in the following periods?  
(Please exclude home births from this number and detail them separately in brackets.)

- 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?
- 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?
- 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?
- 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?

**STILL BIRTHS**

2a. How many stillbirths were there at your hospital Trust in the same periods?

Stillbirth is defined as occurring when a baby is born dead after 24 completed weeks of pregnancy.

- 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?
- 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?
- 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?
- 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?

2b. Of these stillbirths (in answer 2a) how many were Intrapartum stillbirths?

Intrapartum stillbirth is defined as when a baby was thought to be alive at the start of labour but was born, beyond 37 weeks of gestation, with no signs of life.

- 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?
- 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?
- 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?
- 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?

## NEONATAL DEATHS

3a. In the same periods, how many Neonatal deaths were there at your hospital Trust?

Neonatal deaths are defined as a baby that dies within 28 days of birth of any cause or, for the purposes of this process, a baby who dies that has not left hospital since birth.

If a baby was born at your hospital Trust and was transferred to another hospital and died at another hospital Trust, please exclude them from these numbers and specify the number separately in brackets.

- 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?
- 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?
- 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?
- 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?

3b. Of these Neonatal deaths (in answer 3a) how many were 'early Neonatal deaths'?

Early Neonatal deaths are defined as a baby that dies within the first week of life (0-6 days) of any cause.

If a baby was born at your hospital Trust and was transferred to another hospital and died at another hospital Trust, please exclude them from these numbers and specify the number separately in brackets.

- 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?
- 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?
- 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?
- 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?

4a. Of the Neonatal deaths at your hospital Trust, in how many cases was the medical cause identified?

- 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?
- 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?
- 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?
- 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?

4b. Of the Early Neonatal deaths at your hospital Trust, in how many cases was the medical cause identified?

- 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?
- 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?
- 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?
- 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?

4c. Of the Neonatal deaths at your hospital Trust, where the medical cause was identified, how many were referred to the Coroner?

- 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?
- 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?
- 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?
- 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?

4d. Of the Early Neonatal deaths at your hospital Trust, where the medical cause was identified, how many were referred to the Coroner?

- 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?
- 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?
- 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?
- 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?

5a. Of the Neonatal deaths at your hospital Trust, in how many cases was the medical cause not identified?

- 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?
- 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?
- 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?
- 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?

5b. Of the Early Neonatal deaths at your hospital Trust, in how many cases was the medical cause not identified?

- 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?
- 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?
- 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?
- 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?

5c. Of the Early Neonatal deaths at your hospital Trust, where the medical cause was not identified, how many were referred to the Coroner?

- 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?
- 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?
- 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?
- 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?

5d. Of the Neonatal deaths at your hospital Trust, where the medical cause was not identified, how many were referred to the Coroner?

- 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?
- 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?
- 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?
- 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?

#### HYPOXIC ISCHEMIC ENCEPHALOPATHY

6a. Of the Neonatal deaths at your hospital Trust, in how many cases was the cause of death recorded as Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy?

- 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?
- 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?
- 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?
- 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?

6b. Of the Neonatal deaths at your hospital Trust, where the cause of death was recorded as Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy, how many were referred to the coroner?

- 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?
- 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?
- 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?
- 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?

Please provide a copy of your hospital Trust's current policy in respect of referring Neonatal deaths to a coroner and advise the date it was last updated.

### MATERNAL DEATHS

7a. How many maternal deaths were there at your hospital Trust in the same periods?

Maternal deaths are defined as the death of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of the end of the pregnancy from any cause related to or aggravated by the pregnancy or its management, and not from accidental or incidental causes. Excludes death by suicide.

- 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?
- 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?
- 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?
- 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?

7b. In how many cases of maternal death was a Neonatal death also recorded?

- 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?
- 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?
- 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?
- 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?

7c. In how many cases of maternal death where a Neonatal death also recorded, was the death an Early Neonatal death?

- 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020?
- 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021?
- 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022?
- 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022?

### Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with all of the information requested, as it is estimated that the cost of answering your request would exceed the "appropriate limit" as stated in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees)

Regulations 2004. The “appropriate limit” represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours (or 2½ working days) in determining whether the UHB holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

The information requested for questions 4c, 4d, 5c, 5d, 6a, and 6b for the financial years 2019/20 and 2020/21 is not recorded centrally. Therefore, in order to identify any information that would fulfil your request, the UHB would need to undertake a manual search of all maternity patient records.

The UHB is therefore applying an exemption under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA), which provides an exemption from a public authority’s obligation to comply with a request for information where the cost of compliance is estimated to exceed the appropriate limit.

Under Section 16 of the FoIA, we are required as a public authority, to provide advice and assistance so far as it is reasonable, to individuals who have made a request under the FoIA.

However, the UHB is unable to provide the information exactly as requested. The information held by the UHB is combined across two (2) acute hospitals, Bronglais General Hospital (BGH) and Glangwili General Hospital (GGH).

Therefore, the UHB provides the information, as is held, within the spreadsheet, as requested, at Attachment 1.

Additionally, as requested in section 6, the UHB provides a copy of its ‘Care of a neonate and family after a neonatal death guideline’, at Attachment 2.