

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 2987

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Freedom of Information Act 2000

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to the number of times the Trust has had to close the maternity units to new patients between 2011 and 2016.

How many times have you had to temporarily close your maternity units to new patients during the following financial years - 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 to date?

For trusts which operate on multiple sites, can you please make it clear how many temporary closures there were on each maternity facility - and to break the figures down for each?

For the closures referred to above, can you please reveal how long the wards were closed to new patients for?

Where possible can you explain the reasons for the temporary closures of maternity wards at your trust during the years stated above?

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust maternity unit has closed once on 23 December 2015 for 4 hours due to high number of women being on the labour ward at the same time

The unit was closed for safety reasons and reopened as soon as some women had delivered and staff were able to look after any women who wanted to come in.