

Ref: FOI/CAD/ID 3280

**Please reply to:**  
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17 May 2016

### **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 temporary closure of Maidstone Birth Centre.

*Please could you send the following information, which I understand was collected from the Midwives Local Supervisory Authority:*

*The dates (day, month, year) that Maidstone Birth Centre from Maidstone Hospital temporarily closed their doors to new maternity patients from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2004 onwards (or the earliest date available, if this is later).*

*Bank/agency spend on midwifery staff for each month from April 2010 onwards (or the earliest date available, if this is later).*

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust Birth Centre 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.

The Trust does not use agency staff in the Birth Centre.