

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 8207

Please reply to:
FOI Administrator
Trust Management
Maidstone Hospital
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Maidstone, Kent
ME16 9QQ
Email: mtw-tr.foiadmin@nhs.net
www.mtw.nhs.uk

30 June 2023

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 Infant feeding.

You asked: All questions are shown as received by the Trust.

Request 1

Please confirm or deny if Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust has a specific policy on provision of support for all forms of infant feeding, specifically breastfeeding, formula feeding, and combination feeding.

If confirm, please provide a copy of this policy.

Request 2

Please confirm or deny if Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust holds information on the number of infants breastfed, formula fed, and combination fed.

If confirm, please release this data.

Request 3

Please confirm or deny if Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust provides information on all forms of infant feeding (including breastfeeding, formula feeding, and combination feeding) at the 28-week antenatal appointment as outlined in the NICE guideline NG201, post-birth before the family has been discharged and at any other times.

If confirm, please provide a copy of the information on infant feeding that is provided and confirm how as well as when it is delivered.

Request 4

Please confirm or deny if Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust requires mothers to sign a consent form before any information or advice is given on formula feeding OR before an infant receives formula milk in the hospital instead of or alongside breastmilk.

If confirm, please publish a copy of the associated policy and corresponding form.

Request 5

Please confirm or deny if Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust holds information on the number of infants admitted with malnutrition every year, over the last 5 years.

If confirm, please release this data and please publish the Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust policy for addressing infant malnutrition.

Trust response:

Request 1. Yes. The policy is attached to the email, it is based on the sample policy supplied by UNICEF BFI, the trust is currently working towards BFI accreditation.

Request 2. Please see the following table.

April 2019 - May 2023	First Feed			Grand Total
	Artificial	Breast	Breast and artificial	
Grand Total	4615	18269	390	23274

Request 3. Yes. This information is alluded to in the Policy, the information is given as close to 28 weeks as possible, given varying care schedules, depending on the woman's personalised care plan.

Request 4. I can confirm that this practice does not occur at Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust maternity department.

Request 5. The Trust has found 4 patients in the last 5 years.