

FOI REF: 24/504

6th August 2024

Tel: 0300 131 4500
Website: www.esht.nhs.uk

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

I am responding to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. The answers to your specific questions are as follows:

1. The number of newborns taken into care directly from the maternity wards within your NHS Trust over the past 5 years

- 2019 4
- 2020 12
- 2021 9
- 2022 7
- 2023 6

2. Please state whether records are kept by your Trust, copies of court orders provided by social workers for the removal of each infant.

Court Orders are generally not provided to the Maternity Wards, for the purpose of forming part of the patient / infants record. Any Court orders would generally be held by the Social Workers, who fall under East Sussex County Council. On occasion Court orders relating to infants are received as part of a Subject Access Request and are stored by ESHT as a record of that request.

3 How many live births are recorded for each year.

- 2019 - 3026
- 2020 - 2896
- 2021 - 2890
- 2022 - 2862
- 2023 - 2715

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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Should you be dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Please write to the Freedom of Information Department (esh-tr.foi@nhs.net), quoting the above reference, within 40 working days. The Trust is not obliged to accept an internal review after this date.

Should you still be dissatisfied with your FOI request, you have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner at the following address:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Department
esh-tr.foi@nhs.net