

6<sup>th</sup> August 2026

Eastbourne District General Hospital

Kings Drive  
Eastbourne  
East Sussex  
BN21 2UD

Tel: 0300 131 4500  
Website: [www.esht.nhs.uk](http://www.esht.nhs.uk)

Further to your recent request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000, I now set out our answers to your specific questions, and any clarifications sought and provided, as follows:

**We are requesting the following maternity and neonatal data for the period 1 January to 31 December 2025.**

**Where the Trust provides maternity services at more than one site please ensure that the responses are broken down by site, including whether care was Consultant led, Midwife led and whether delivery was in an Obstetrician led delivery suite, midwife led birth centre, home birth or other.**

**1. Births and Deaths**

**1.1 Total births**

**1.2 Total stillbirths**

**1.3 Crude stillbirth rate**

**1.4 Stabilised stillbirth rate**

**1.5 Total live births**

[Please see the attached document - 'FOI 26-370 Response'.](#)

**1.6 Total neonatal deaths**

**1.7 Crude neonatal death rate**

**1.8 Stabilised neonatal death rate**

[Please note the Coroner does not give his permission for the Trust to share information in relation to deaths where the death has been reported to the Coroner's Office, including neonatal deaths. Coroner's Offices are not subject to the Freedom of Information Act, therefore we are unable to provide you with a response to this part of your request.](#)

- 1.9 Total perinatal deaths**
- 1.10 Crude perinatal death rate**
- 1.11 Stabilised perinatal death rate**

[Please see the attached document - 'FOI 26-370 Response'](#) and note for questions 1.6 to 1.8.

## **2. Maternal Deaths**

- 2.1 Total maternal deaths (as defined by MBRRACE-UK)**
- 2.2 Number of maternal deaths investigated through PMRT, PSIRF, or MNSI**
- 2.3 Number of maternal deaths referred to the Coroner**
- 2.4 Number of maternal deaths subject to Coroner investigation or inquest**
- 2.5 Number of maternal deaths where issues with care were identified**
- 2.6 Number of maternal deaths reported to MBRRACE-UK but not investigated by MNSI, with reason(s)**

[Please see the attached document - 'FOI 26-370 Response'](#).

## **3. Perinatal Mortality Review Tool (PMRT)**

- 3.1 Number of PMRTs completed for 2025 cases**
- 3.2 Number of PMRTs outstanding for 2025 cases**
- 3.3 Number of PMRTs within each grading (A, B, C, D)**
- 3.4 Whether PMRTs are linked to MBRRACE case IDs (Yes/No – if No, please explain why)**

[Please see the attached document - 'FOI 26-370 Response'](#).

## **4. Maternity and Neonatal Safety Investigations (MNSI)**

- 4.1 Number of deaths not qualifying for referral to MNSI**
- 4.2 Number of cases for each reason these deaths did not qualify (e.g. gestation, stillbirth criteria, timing, cause of death, etc.)**
- 4.3 Number of referrals made to MNSI**
- 4.4 Number of cases investigated by MNSI**

[Please see the attached document - 'FOI 26-370 Response'](#).

- 4.5** Number of MNSI investigations where recommendations were made that may have altered the outcome
- 4.6** Details or summary of the recommendations made to the Trust by MNSI for these 2024 cases
- 4.7** Confirmation whether any MNSI-investigated cases were also reported as Serious Incidents under PSIRF, and how overlap is managed

[Please see the attached document - 'FOI 26-370 Response'.](#)

**5. Coroner Referrals (Neonatal and Maternal Deaths)**

- 5.1** Number of neonatal or maternal deaths referred to the Coroner by the hospital
- 5.2** Number referred by parents/family/others
- 5.3** Number of cases where the Coroner undertook a full investigation
- 5.4** Number of inquests opened in 2025
- 5.5** Number of inquests completed in 2025
- 5.6** Number of inquests identifying issues with care
- 5.7** Number of inquests still open related to 2025 cases

[The Coroner does not give his permission for the Trust to share information in relation to deaths where the death has been reported to the Coroner's Office. Coroner's Offices are not subject to the Freedom of Information Act therefore we are unable to provide you with a response to this part of your request.](#)

**6. Internal Investigations (PSIRF / RCA / Other)**

- 6.1** Number of Root Cause Analysis or PSIRF investigations undertaken relating to 2025 maternity, perinatal, or maternal deaths
- 6.2** Number completed
- 6.3** Outcome statistics (e.g. avoidable / potentially avoidable / no issues identified)
- 6.4** Brief description or title list of any internal maternity or perinatal safety reviews conducted in 2025 not part of PMRT, PSIRF, or MNSI

[Please see the attached document - 'FOI 26-370 Response'.](#)

## **7. Governance and Validation**

- 7.1 Identify the primary source system used for each dataset (e.g. BadgerNet, EuroKing, etc.)**
- 7.2 Confirm whether each dataset has been validated or submitted to MBRRACE-UK, or remains provisional**
- 7.3 Provide the dates of Trust Board meetings in 2025 where maternity mortality data or PMRT findings were discussed**

Please see the attached document - 'FOI 26-370 Response'.

I trust this information is helpful in its detail or explanation however, if you are dissatisfied with the response, then you have the right to request an internal review. If you wish to seek an internal review, please write to the Freedom of Information Team at [esh-tr.foi@nhs.net](mailto:esh-tr.foi@nhs.net) quoting the above FOI reference number, within 40 working days. Please note the Trust is not obliged to accept a request for an internal review after this time period.

Yours faithfully

Freedom of Information (FOI) Team  
East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust  
0300 131 4716  
Core Hours of Business: Monday to Friday 9.00am to 4.00pm

**FOI 26/370 - East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust**

We are requesting the following maternity and neonatal data for the period 1 January to 31 December 2025.

Where the Trust provides maternity services at more than one site please ensure that the responses are broken down by site, including whether care was Consultant led, Midwife led and whether delivery was in an Obstetrician led delivery suit, midwife led birth centre, home birth or other.

|                                                                                                      | Eastbourne District<br>General Hospital<br>(Midwife Led Care)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Conquest Hospital<br>(Consultant Led/Obstetric<br>Led Care) | Homebirth (Eastbourne) | Homebirth (Conquest) |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Births and Deaths                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                             |                        |                      |
| 1.1 Total births                                                                                     | 90                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 2740                                                        | 10                     | 41                   |
| 1.2 Total stillbirths                                                                                | 0                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 12                                                          | 0                      | 0                    |
| 1.3 Crude stillbirth rate (per 1000 births)                                                          | 0                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 4.37                                                        | 0                      | 0                    |
| 1.4 Stabilised stillbirth rate                                                                       | 0                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Information not yet available.                              | 0                      | 0                    |
| 1.5 Total live births                                                                                | 90                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 2695                                                        | 10                     | 41                   |
| 1.6 Total neonatal deaths                                                                            | We are unable to confirm a response to questions 1.6 to 1.8 as any neonatal death would be reported to the Coroner. The Coroner does not give his permission for the Trust to share information in relation to deaths where the death has been reported to the Coroner's Office. Coroner's Offices are not subject to the Freedom of Information Act therefore we are unable to provide you with a response to this part of your request. |                                                             |                        |                      |
| 1.7 Crude neonatal death rate                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                             |                        |                      |
| 1.8 Stabilised neonatal death rate                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                             |                        |                      |
| 1.9 Total perinatal deaths - excluding neonatal deaths, as per 1.6, and non registerable births.     | 0                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 12                                                          | 0                      | 0                    |
| 1.1 Crude perinatal death rate - excluding neonatal deaths, as per 1.6, and non registerable births. | 0                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 4.37                                                        | 0                      | 0                    |
| 1.11 Stabilised perinatal death rate                                                                 | 0                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Information not yet available.                              | 0                      | 0                    |
| 2. Maternal Deaths                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                             |                        |                      |
| 2.1 Total maternal deaths (as defined by MBRRACE-UK)                                                 | 0                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 0                                                           | 0                      | 0                    |
| 2.2 Number of maternal deaths investigated through PMRT, PSIRF, or MNSI                              | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Not applicable.                                             | Not applicable.        | Not applicable.      |
| 2.3 Number of maternal deaths referred to the Coroner                                                | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Not applicable.                                             | Not applicable.        | Not applicable.      |
| 2.4 Number of maternal deaths subject to Coroner investigation or inquest                            | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Not applicable.                                             | Not applicable.        | Not applicable.      |
| 2.5 Number of maternal deaths where issues with care were identified                                 | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Not applicable.                                             | Not applicable.        | Not applicable.      |
| 2.6 Number of maternal deaths reported to MBRRACE-UK but not investigated by MNSI, with reason(s)    | Not applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Not applicable.                                             | Not applicable.        | Not applicable.      |
| 3. Perinatal Mortality Review Tool (PMRT)                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                             |                        |                      |
| 3.1 Number of PMRTs completed for 2025 cases                                                         | 0                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 13                                                          | 0                      | 0                    |
| 3.2 Number of PMRTs outstanding for 2025 cases                                                       | 0                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 0                                                           | 0                      | 0                    |
| 3.3 Number of PMRTs within each grading (A, B, C, D)                                                 | 0                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | A = 1                                                       | 0                      | 0                    |
|                                                                                                      | 0                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | B = 9                                                       | 0                      | 0                    |
|                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | C = 2                                                       |                        |                      |
|                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | D = 1                                                       |                        |                      |
| 3.4 Whether PMRTs are linked to MBRRACE case IDs (Yes/No – if No, please explain why)                | Yes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                             |                        |                      |
| 4. Maternity and Neonatal Safety Investigations (MNSI)                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                             |                        |                      |
| 4.1 Number of deaths not qualifying for referral to MNSI                                             | ESHT only hold data of cases that do or may fit the referral criteria; on that basis there were three that did not fit their criteria and were rejected.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                             |                        |                      |

|     |                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                      |                |                |  |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|--|
| 4.2 | Number of cases for each reason these deaths did not qualify (e.g. gestation, stillbirth criteria, timing, cause of death, etc.)         | Of these three rejected cases, two were not considered to be in labour and one the family did not give consent.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                      |                |                |  |
| 4.3 | Number of referrals made to MNSI                                                                                                         | There was a total of 7 death referrals made to MNSI.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                      |                |                |  |
| 4.4 | Number of cases investigated by MNSI                                                                                                     | 4                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                      |                |                |  |
| 4.5 | Number of MNSI investigations where recommendations were made that may have altered the outcome                                          | 0                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                      |                |                |  |
| 4.6 | Details or summary of the recommendations made to the Trust by MNSI for these 2024 cases                                                 | Please see separate tab.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                      |                |                |  |
| 4.7 | Confirmation whether any MNSI-investigated cases were also reported as Serious Incidents under PSIRF, and how overlap is managed         | All accepted MNSI cases are reported on ESHT’s Serious Incident Reporting System, however a serious incident is no longer an investigation tool under PSIRF. This was effectively replaced with Patient Safety Incident Investigations (PSII) but these cases are not investigated as such.                                                                                          |                                      |                |                |  |
| 5.  | Coroner Referrals (Neonatal and Maternal Deaths)                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                      |                |                |  |
| 5.1 | Number of neonatal or maternal deaths referred to the Coroner by the hospital                                                            | We are unable to confirm a response to questions 5.1 to 5.7 as the Coroner does not give his permission for the Trust to share information in relation to deaths where the death has been reported to the Coroner’s Office. Coroner’s Offices are not subject to the Freedom of Information Act therefore we are unable to provide you with a response to this part of your request. |                                      |                |                |  |
| 5.2 | Number referred by parents/family/others                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                      |                |                |  |
| 5.3 | Number of cases where the Coroner undertook a full investigation                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                      |                |                |  |
| 5.4 | Number of inquests opened in 2025                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                      |                |                |  |
| 5.5 | Number of inquests completed in 2025                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                      |                |                |  |
| 5.6 | Number of inquests identifying issues with care                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                      |                |                |  |
| 5.7 | Number of inquests still open related to 2025 cases                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                      |                |                |  |
| 6.  | Internal Investigations (PSIRF / RCA / Other)                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                      |                |                |  |
| 6.1 | Number of Root Cause Analysis or PSIRF investigations undertaken relating to 2025 maternity, perinatal, or maternal deaths               | 0                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 7                                    | 0              | 0              |  |
| 6.2 | Number completed                                                                                                                         | 0                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 7                                    | 0              | 0              |  |
| 6.3 | Outcome statistics (e.g. avoidable / potentially avoidable / no issues identified)                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                      |                |                |  |
|     | Avoidable                                                                                                                                | Not applicable                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 0                                    | Not applicable | Not applicable |  |
|     | Potentially avoidable                                                                                                                    | Not applicable                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 0                                    | Not applicable | Not applicable |  |
|     | Unavoidable                                                                                                                              | Not applicable                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 7                                    | Not applicable | Not applicable |  |
| 6.4 | Brief description or title list of any internal maternity or perinatal safety reviews conducted in 2025 not part of PMRT, PSIRF, or MNSI | Not applicable                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | None, all were PSIRF investigations. | Not applicable | Not applicable |  |
| 7.  | Governance and Validation                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                      |                |                |  |
| 7.1 | Identify the primary source system used for each dataset (e.g. BadgerNet, EuroKing, etc.)                                                | ESHT's Maternity Department use Badgernet.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                      |                |                |  |
| 7.2 | Confirm whether each dataset has been validated or submitted to MBRRACE-UK, or remains provisional                                       | All cases which require submitting to MBRRACE have been done. None are provisional.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                      |                |                |  |
| 7.3 | Provide the dates of Trust Board meetings in 2025 where maternity mortality data or PMRT findings were discussed                         | The following dates from 2025 are when the Trust received a maternity update at the Board meeting in public:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                      |                |                |  |
|     |                                                                                                                                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 29th April (Q3 data)</li><li>• 24th June (Q4 data)</li><li>• 14th October (Q1 data)</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                      |                |                |  |