

Trust Headquarters
Russell's Hall Hospital
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2HQ

Ref: FOI-092024-0001128

Date: 22.1.25

Address / Email:

Dear

Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Request

I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding your hospital's policies concerning expectant mothers employed as doctors in the **vascular surgery department**, including both trainees and locally employed doctors.

Specifically, I would like to request the following information:

1. Expectant Mothers in Vascular Surgery:

- Any data, policies, or guidelines related to expectant mothers working as doctors in the vascular surgery department, including their duties and adjustments during pregnancy.
- Details on risk assessments carried out for pregnant doctors working in vascular surgery, including measures taken to mitigate risks associated with their role.

2. Maternity Policy in the Surgical Environment:

- Specific policies or guidelines for pregnant doctors within the vascular surgery department concerning surgical duties, particularly in relation to exposure to occupational hazards such as anaesthetic gases, radiation, long hours and night shifts.
- Any restrictions or recommendations for pregnant doctors performing surgery or other related duties.

3. Post-Maternity Support:

- Information on return-to-work policies for doctors in the vascular surgery department following maternity leave, including phased returns, flexible working options, and support for balancing clinical responsibilities with new parenting duties.
- Details on breastfeeding facilities and accommodations for doctors returning to the surgical environment after maternity leave.

Response

There are no policies specific to the vascular surgery department.

Please see attached the Trust's flexible working policy and the Pregnancy, Pregnancy loss, Maternity Adoption and Paternity policy

For copy of the policies please contact dgft.foi@nhs.net quoting reference number 0001128

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you have the right to appeal in line with guidance from the Information Commissioner. In the first instance you may contact the Information Governance Manager of the Trust.

Information Governance Manager
Trust Headquarters
Russell's Hall Hospital
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2HQ
Email: dgft.dpo@nhs.net

Should you disagree with the contents of our response to your appeal, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioners Office at.

Information Commissioners Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 0303 123 1113
www.ico.org.uk

If you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team
The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust