

Ref. No: 1299
Date: 24/10/24
Subject: Birthrights

REQUEST

1. Does your Trust operate a home birth service for women and birthing people (regardless of whether such services are offered through a dedicated team or integrated into wider maternity services)?
2. If so, are home birth services available 24 hours a day, seven days a week across the whole geographic area overseen by the Trust?
3. Has your Trust been able to provide home birth services to women and birthing people 24 hours a day, seven days a week without any suspensions or restrictions to that ability in the last 12 months?
Please note in using the terms suspensions or restrictions we include (but are not limited to) restrictions to the days/times when home births can be attended by midwives or not being able to offer a home birth service at all for a period of time. We do not include unforeseen staff shortages on a particular shift here.
4. Please include the terms and reason(s) for any suspensions or restrictions in the last 12 months.
5. Has your Trust been unable to send midwives to attend a home birth due to unforeseen circumstances (such as staff shortages or sickness) on a particular shift in the last 12 months? Please include how many times this has occurred in the last 12 months.
6. How many home births have been attended by midwives in your Trust in the last 12 months, including those resulting in intrapartum and/or postnatal transfer into hospital and those resulting in a baby being born at home with no transfer-in?

RESPONSE

Whiston site

1. Does your Trust operate a home birth service for women and birthing people (regardless of whether such services are offered through a dedicated team or integrated into wider maternity services)?

Yes

2. If so, are home birth services available 24 hours a day, seven days a week across the whole geographic area overseen by the Trust?

Yes

3. Has your Trust been able to provide home birth services to women and birthing people 24 hours a day, seven days a week without any suspensions or restrictions to that ability in the last 12 months? *Please note in using the terms suspensions or restrictions we include (but are not limited to) restrictions to the days/times when home births can be attended by midwives or not being able to offer a home birth service at all for a period of time. We do not include unforeseen staff shortages on a particular shift here.*

Yes

4. Please include the terms and reason(s) for any suspensions or restrictions in the last 12 months.

N/A

5. Has your Trust been unable to send midwives to attend a home birth due to unforeseen circumstances (such as staff shortages or sickness) on a particular shift in the last 12 months? Please include how many times this has occurred in the last 12 months.

No

6. How many home births have been attended by midwives in your Trust in the last 12 months, including those resulting in intrapartum and/or postnatal transfer into hospital and those resulting in a baby being born at home with no transfer-in?

31 planned and completed homebirths and additional 4 births commenced care at home and required transfer in to the delivery unit.

Ormskirk response

1. Does your Trust operate a home birth service for women and birthing people (regardless of whether such services are offered through a dedicated team or integrated into wider maternity services)?

Yes

2. If so, are home birth services available 24 hours a day, seven days a week across the whole geographic area overseen by the Trust?

Yes

3. Has your Trust been able to provide home birth services to women and birthing people 24 hours a day, seven days a week without any suspensions or restrictions to that ability in the last 12 months? *Please note in using the terms suspensions or restrictions we include (but are not limited to) restrictions to the days/times when home births can be attended by midwives or not being able to offer a home birth service at all for a period of time. We do not include unforeseen staff shortages on a particular shift here.*

Yes

4. Please include the terms and reason(s) for any suspensions or restrictions in the last 12 months.

N/A

5. Has your Trust been unable to send midwives to attend a home birth due to unforeseen circumstances (such as staff shortages or sickness) on a particular shift in the last 12 months? Please include how many times this has occurred in the last 12 months.

X2 occasions, homebirth service suspended as midwives required as contingency for unit to remain open overnight

6. How many home births have been attended by midwives in your Trust in the last 12 months, including those resulting in intrapartum and/or postnatal transfer into hospital and those resulting in a baby being born at home with no transfer-in?

35 planned and completed homebirths and additional 21 commenced care at home and then transferred into labour ward. Total 56 women supported to labour at home (data Nov 23-Oct 24)