

Question:

I would like to request the following, broken down by Trust for each of the last five years:

The number of Adverse, and Serious Adverse Incidents recorded relating to staffing in midwifery.

Response:

Adverse Incidents - The Strategic Planning and Performance Group (SPPG) of the DOH do not hold information on Adverse Incidents for each of the HSC Trusts.

You may wish to contact the HSC Trusts who may be in a position to provide further information. Contact details are included, see appendix 1.

Serious Adverse Incidents - Upon receipt of your request DOH has taken some time to consider the information held which would be relevant to your request. Whilst DOH does hold information to inform a response; the process of:

- finding the requested information, or records containing the information;
- retrieving the information or records; and
- extracting the requested information from records

would be a significant exercise. An initial review has identified 201 records and we have been advised it would far exceed the cost limit of £600.

The Information Commissioners Office (ICO) website provides advice around fees and cost limits (<https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/foi/guide-to-managing-an-foi-request/charging-a-fee-and-cost-limits/>) and identifies cost limits for a Government Department at £600 or 24 hours at a cost of £25/hour.

The DOH therefore considers Section 12 of the FOI Act to be relevant on this occasion and is therefore refusing this element of your request on the grounds of cost.

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