Torbay and South Devon
NHS Foundation Trust

Email: foi.tsdft@nhs.net
Our Ref: TSD10961

2 November 2026

Dear Sir/Madam

Request for Information

We are writing to confirm that we have now completed our search for the information you requested.

A copy of the information is below:

I have seen a few home birthing units across the country have either had suspensions and been closed for a few weeks at a time or been closed this year. Please can you answer the following questions:

How many home birthing units do you have in the Trust?
There are no home birthing units at Torbay & South Devon NHS Foundation Trust, this terminology is not used within the Maternity Service.

Have any of these home birthing units had to close between December 2025 and October 2026?
As above

Have any of these home birthing units had suspensions between December 2025 and October 2026?
As above

What were the reasons for the closures or suspensions?
As above

Have you had any cases of women giving birth at home without the help of a midwife?
For the period December 2025 to October 2026 inclusive there were 8 women who gave birth at home without the help of a midwife, for a variety of reasons.

The information supplied to you continues to be protected by the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including any non-commercial research you are doing and for the purposes of news reporting.

If you wish to discuss any of the above, please contact us, quoting the FOI reference number above.

If you are unhappy with the way in which we have handled your request, please contact the Data Protection and Freedom of Information Lead in the first instance. If you wish to make a formal complaint, you should write to our Information Governance Team at Information Governance and Data Protection, Belmont Court, Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust, Torquay, TQ2 7AA or by email to tsdft.igteam@nhs.net

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint or the internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner will only make a decision once you have exhausted the complaints and/or internal review process provided by us. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or through this link https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Team