

Our Ref: 397
June 2024

Re: Your request made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

I would like to make a request under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000 relating to the number of babies born with ankyloglossia (tongue tie).

If possible please could you provide the following information for the calendar years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023, broken down by year:

1. How many babies were born within your trust?
2. How many babies were diagnosed with ankyloglossia (tongue tie)
3. On average how many days after birth was a tongue tie diagnosis made?
4. Is the frenotomy procedure (tongue tie division) available to babies who are fully formula fed? If not, please could you explain details of the criteria (i.e. what about babies who are combi-fed?)
5. How many frenotomy procedures were carried out on babies at your trust?
6. What was the average waiting time in days between diagnosis/referral and a frenotomy procedure?
7. How many babies waited 3 weeks or longer after a referral for a frenotomy procedure?
8. How many babies waited more than 6 weeks?
9. What was the longest amount of time a baby had to wait after a referral for a frenotomy procedure?

If providing the data for the full five years pushes the request above the cost limit for free information, please provide it for as far back as possible. I would be grateful for any other advice and assistance under section 16 of the FOI Act in order to keep my request within the cost limit for the provision of free information, so I can amend or resubmit the request early in the 20-day period, if this is what you advise.

DBTH does not hold this information

We do not offer a frenulotomy service and do not collect data on how many babies would need the procedure. We cannot audit this or collect this data