



Surrey and Sussex Healthcare  
NHS Trust

**Please reply to:**

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**By Email**

Our ref: 4968

28 September 2018

Dear Alessandro

**Freedom of information request**

I am writing in response to your request for information which has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

For each year between 2009 and up-to the end of 2017, how many babies born under your trust were born to drug dependent mothers and once born, were transferred to a drug treatment programme to wean them off their addiction? [We do not record how many babies are born to drug dependent mothers; however we do record the number of babies who are admitted to the Neonatal Unit who are on withdrawal observations. We do not hold information for 2009.](#)

[Please see the figures below from Jan 2010 - Dec 2017:](#)

Year	Babies on Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Obs	Received treatment
2010	<5	<5
2011	0	0
2012	5	<5
2013	<5	0
2014	<5	<5
2015	6	<5
2016	8	<5
2017	9	<5

I hope this information is helpful, but if you are unhappy with our response, or the way in which your request has been handled, you may request an independent internal review. This would be undertaken by an appropriate senior member of staff at the Trust, who has had no involvement in dealing with your original request. We aim to deal with

internal reviews within 20 working days following receipt. If you wish to request one, please set out your grounds for asking for the review in writing and send it by post or email:

By post: Please address your letter to “Freedom of Information – Information Access Appeal” and send it to our address as shown on this letter.

By Email: Emails should be clearly marked ‘Information access appeal’ and sent to: [sash.foi@nhs.net](mailto:sash.foi@nhs.net).

Should you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you would have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO). However, I should point out that under section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, you are obliged to exhaust the Trust’s own internal review process before appealing to the ICO. The ICO’s contact details are:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113  
<http://ico.org.uk>

We would also welcome your feedback on how well we met your expectations in handling your FOIA request. If you have a couple of minutes, please click on this [link](#) to complete our Freedom of Information Customer Satisfaction Survey and let us know about your experience. The survey is anonymous – unless you choose to provide your reference number.

Please contact me, quoting our reference, if you have any queries concerning this letter and I will be happy to help.

Yours sincerely

Jeanette Randall  
FOI Officer