

20231204 FOI ref 588-2324

FOI request - maternity care for survivors of sexual abuse and/or sexual violence

Dear Sir / Madam

I am undertaking a FOI request across all UK NHS Hospital Trust/ Health Boards, asking about the training that health visitors and physiotherapists [who provide care within the maternity services] receive about trauma informed care and the causes and consequences of sexual violence, and about the way that maternity services enquire / offer the opportunity to women and birthing people to share if they have experienced sexual abuse and/or sexual violence.

I would be very grateful if you could complete this survey on behalf of your NHS organisation. Please include information about community maternity services, in addition to acute services.

I am aware that the topic of sexual violence is a sensitive one, and that some of these questions may be challenging or upsetting for some people. If you would like to speak to someone about any of the issues in this survey, you can call The Survivors Trust in confidence on 08088 010818 or visit their website on www.thesurvivorstrust.org

Thank you in advance,

1. Please indicate if your Trust /Health Board provides the following training to all Health Visitors

	Yes / No
Mandatory training about providing trauma informed care	No
Mandatory training about the causes and consequences of sexual violence and sexual abuse	No

2. Please indicate if your Trust /Health Board provides the following training to all physiotherapists who provide care within the maternity services

	Yes / No
Mandatory training about providing trauma informed care	No
Mandatory training about the causes and consequences of sexual violence and sexual abuse	No

3. Are women and birthing people routinely asked, or offered the opportunity to share, if they have experienced sexual violence or sexual abuse? [please circle]

Yes x

4. If yes, please provide detail about this process [e.g. at what point(s) in their maternity care does this happen; who is the person who makes this enquiry; is this required by any policies etc?]

.....This is asked as part of the routine enquiry (question about domestic violence) but those specific phrase of sexual violence or sexual abuse may not always be used. The routine enquiry question should be asked at every contact with a woman whenever it is safe to do so.

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5. Please state the name of the NHS organisation completing this survey

.....as per attached letter.....

Thank you very much for completing this FOI request

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