



# Resolution

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December 2025  
FOI\_7525

The following information was requested on 31 October 2025:

## *Freedom of Information Act Request*

*Last year you provided a response to a Fol enquiry relating to compensation for obstetrics care [Ref: Fol 6534]. In that response you provided a number of tables. Could you now supply me with updated tables but ONLY in relation to tables, 2,3, 6 and 7.*

Copy of FOI\_6534 is available here - [FOI 6534 Maternity-claims Obstetrics.pdf](#)

## **Our Response**

Please find attached the requested information. We have provided the information for the financial years 2023/2024 – 2024/25 in relation to the specialty **Obstetrics**.

**NB:** We have recently changed the way we report on our FOIs to align better with our published documents. Streamlining our reporting on FOIs with our annual published reports may mean a variation in snapshot dates. This means this data may not align with previous similar requests and it may not be possible for you to compare this information with a previous request. For further information, please refer to <https://resolution.nhs.uk/resources/understanding-nhs-resolution-data>.

Claims notified/received in any given year will often relate to incidents that have occurred many years prior. Due to the nature of clinical negligence claims and the level of investigation needed to bring them to a resolution, claims received and notified in a specific year may take years to settle and close. **They are not guaranteed to be settled and closed in the same year.** As such, there will be a time gap between incident and claim closure.

Due to the way in which data is extracted, it is also possible that the same claim may appear more than once in a dataset, across different year groups e.g. where the case has been closed (as nil damages payment), challenged, reopened and closed again at conclusion.

The data shows variation in numbers of cases closed per year and costs attributed to those claims. This is a reflection of the nature of individual claims received and resolved

by NHS Resolution, which can vary significantly. As such, these fluctuations cannot be interpreted as trends.

We have provided data on clinical cases only.

**Table 1 shows:** - Number and Cost of Clinical Claims closed between financial years 2023/24 and 2024/25 for the Mother (based on age of the patient at incident date), with a damages payment, where the Specialty is '**Obstetrics**' and any injury is 'Fatality'. The data includes the damages and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure.

**Table 2 shows:** - Number and Cost of Clinical Claims Closed between financial years 2023/24 and 2024/25 for the baby (based on age of the patient at incident date), with a damages payment, where the Specialty is '**Obstetrics**' and any injury is 'Fatality'. The data includes the damages and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure.

The information disclosed excludes Periodical Payment Orders (PPO), (which are an agreement between the parties to pay an initial lump sum and regular future payments covering the injured party's ongoing care needs, usually for life), due to their nature.

For tables 1- 2 - Please note that we have not used the World Health Organisation definition of Maternal death which is: Death of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of the end of the pregnancy from any cause related to or aggravated by the pregnancy or its management, but not from accidental or incidental causes.

To do so would require a manual review of individual claims file and this would likely exceed the FOI Cost limit. Rather we have focused on Obstetric claims and any deaths associated with these claims.

**Table 3 shows:** - Number and Cost of all Clinical Claims closed (or settled with a periodical payment order) between financial years 2023/24 and 2024/25 for the Mother (based on age of the patient at incident date), with a damages payment, where the Specialty is '**Obstetrics**'. The data includes the damages paid and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure, or for PPO matters, year of settlement.

**Table 4 shows:** - Number and Cost of all Clinical Claims closed (or settled with a periodical payment order) between financial years 2023/24 and 2024/25 for the Baby (based on age of the patient at incident date), with a damages payment, where the Specialty is '**Obstetrics**'. The data includes the damages paid and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure, or for PPO matters, year of settlement.

## **PPOs**

The information disclosed includes damages and costs paid up to the end of the settlement year (in Periodical payment order (PPO) cases) and up to the end of the closure year in non-PPO cases.

PPOs are an agreement between the parties, to pay an initial lump sum and regular future payments (PPO damages) related to the injured party's ongoing needs, usually care for life i.e., a percentage of the full value of the claim is paid at the point of settlement (lump sum damages) with the balance paid at regular intervals over subsequent years. The information disclosed includes lump sum damages, costs and any PPO damages paid up to the end of the year of settlement. It does not include PPO damages, which have been committed to but due to be paid after the settlement year.

Further to our obligations to provide advice and assistance, you may find it helpful to review the work of the [Getting It Right First Time team](#) with whom NHS Resolution has been working with to undertake in-depth analysis of our claims data. They have produced a number of [reports](#) from analysing our claims data which has been shared following approval of the confidentiality advisory group to the use of confidential patient information for this purpose.

If you would like to know how data is categorised in our Claims database please see the following link: [Glossary](#)

**This concludes our response to your request.**

If you are not satisfied with the service that you have received in response to your information request, it is open to you to make a complaint and request a formal review of our decisions. If you choose to do this, you should write to [Joanne Appleby](#), Deputy Data Protection Officer for NHS Resolution, within 28 days of your receipt of this reply. Reviews of decisions made in relation to information requests are carried out by a person who was not involved in the original decision-making about the request.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a review of the decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner will not make a decision unless you have exhausted the local complaints procedure. The address of the Information Commissioner's Office is:

Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

<https://ico.org.uk/>

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**NB: Number of claims fewer than 5 (and any associated values, within the same row) are masked with a "#" (in accordance with Data Protection guidelines). Accordingly, some total values may also be approximated to prevent masked values to be deduced through reverse calculation.**

Table 1: Number and Cost of Clinical Claims Closed between financial years 2023/24 and 2024/25 for the Mother (based on age of the patient at incident date) with a damages payment, where the Specialty is 'Obstetrics', and any injury is 'Fatality'. The data includes the damages and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure.

Table 2: Number and Cost of Clinical Claims Closed between financial years 2023/24 and 2024/25 for the Baby (based on age of the patient at incident date) with a damages payment, where the Specialty is 'Obstetrics' and any injury is 'Fatality'. The data includes the damages and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure.

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**Table 1: Number and Cost of Clinical Claims Closed between financial years 2023/24 and 2024/25 for the Mother (based on age of the patient at incident date) with a damages payment, where the Specialty is 'Obstetrics', and any injury is 'Fatality'. The data includes the damages and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure.**

|                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| ClosedSettled       | Y                |
| ClaimOutcome        | Damages Paid     |
| ClinicalNonClinical | Clinical         |
| AgeGroup_atIncident | Mother           |
| ConcatInjuryAll     | (Multiple Items) |

| Year of Closure    | No. of Claims | Damages Paid     | NHS Legal Costs Paid | Claimant Legal Costs Paid | Total Paid       |
|--------------------|---------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| 2023/24            | 17            | 2,984,687        | 250,652              | 1,047,353                 | 4,282,692        |
| 2024/25            | 23            | 2,726,138        | 307,543              | 1,566,895                 | 4,600,576        |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>40</b>     | <b>5,710,825</b> | <b>558,195</b>       | <b>2,614,248</b>          | <b>8,883,268</b> |

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**Table 2: Number and Cost of Clinical Claims Closed between financial years 2023/24 and 2024/25 for the Baby (based on age of the patient at incident date) with a damages payment, where the Specialty is 'Obstetrics' and any injury is 'Fatality'. The data includes the damages and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure.**

|                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| ClosedSettled       | Y                |
| ClaimOutcome        | Damages Paid     |
| ClinicalNonClinical | Clinical         |
| AgeGroup_atIncident | Baby             |
| ConcatInjuryAll     | (Multiple Items) |

| Year of Closure    | No. of Claims | Damages Paid     | NHS Legal Costs Paid | Claimant Legal Costs Paid | Total Paid        |
|--------------------|---------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 2023/24            | 35            | 2,678,888        | 469,048              | 2,123,838                 | 5,271,774         |
| 2024/25            | 57            | 5,263,596        | 1,008,073            | 3,754,318                 | 10,025,988        |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>92</b>     | <b>7,942,484</b> | <b>1,477,121</b>     | <b>5,878,156</b>          | <b>15,297,762</b> |



Resolution

Table 3: Number and Cost of Clinical Claims Closed (or settled with a periodical payment order) between financial years 2023/24 and 2024/25 for the Mother (based on age of the patient at incident date) with a damages payment, where the Specialty is 'Obstetrics'. The data includes the damages paid and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure, or for PPO matters, year of settlement.

|                     |              |
|---------------------|--------------|
| ClosedSettled       | Y            |
| ClaimOutcome        | Damages Paid |
| ClinicalNonClinical | Clinical     |
| AgeGroup_atIncident | Mother       |

| Year of Closure (Settlement Year for PPOs) | No. of Claims | Damages Paid | NHS Legal Costs Paid | Claimant Legal Costs Paid | Total Paid  |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| 2023/24                                    | 495           | 149,492,759  | 7,522,625            | 32,205,920                | 189,221,303 |
| 2024/25                                    | 575           | 85,253,478   | 7,371,183            | 36,308,368                | 128,933,029 |
| Grand Total                                | 1,070         | 234,746,237  | 14,893,807           | 68,514,289                | 318,154,333 |



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Table 4: Number and Cost of Clinical Claims Closed (or settled with a periodical payment order) between financial years 2023/24 and 2024/25 for the Baby (based on age of the patient at incident date) with a damages payment, where the Specialty is 'Obstetrics'. The data includes the damages paid and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure, or for PPO matters, year of settlement.

|                     |              |
|---------------------|--------------|
| ClosedSettled       | Y            |
| ClaimOutcome        | Damages Paid |
| ClinicalNonClinical | Clinical     |
| AgeGroup_atIncident | Baby         |

| Year of Closure (Settlement Year for PPOs) | No. of Claims | Damages Paid  | NHS Legal Costs Paid | Claimant Legal Costs Paid | Total Paid    |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| 2023/24                                    | 211           | 504,866,096   | 19,897,223           | 56,167,250                | 580,930,570   |
| 2024/25                                    | 232           | 540,180,141   | 22,413,740           | 67,314,496                | 629,908,376   |
| Grand Total                                | 443           | 1,045,046,237 | 42,310,963           | 123,481,746               | 1,210,838,946 |