



Resolution

8th Floor,
10 South Colonnade
Canary Wharf
London
E14 4PU

Telephone: 020 7811 2700

March 2026

FOI_7724

The following information was requested on 12 February 2026:

Follow up to – [FOI 7690 Claims-re-home-births.pdf](#)

Thank you for your response.

I appreciate the time taken to explain the limitations of your system, though I am disappointed to learn that you are unable to provide any usable or specific information regarding incidents or claims relating to NHS home births in England.

Given these constraints, may I please ask:

What information is easily retrievable from your system that could support research into incidents occurring during NHS home births in England?

For example, are there any:

- categories, codes or sub codes that commonly include home birth cases?*
- claim descriptions, sub specialties, or free text fields that you can search without exceeding the FOIA cost limit?*
- datasets, tables, or high level summaries that may indirectly capture relevant incidents (e.g., “birth outside hospital”, “community midwifery”, “delayed transfer”, etc.)?*
- previously extracted statistics, examples, or anonymised case summaries that relate to births occurring outside hospital settings?*

Any information that can be released within FOIA limits, even if broad or partial, would be extremely helpful for my research into safety incidents during NHS home births in England.

Our Response

Thank you for your request of 12 February 2026, submitted as a follow up to our earlier response ([FOI 7690](#)). You asked what information can be reliably retrieved from our systems to support research into incidents occurring during NHS home births in England.

As previously explained, our database does not contain a dedicated learning code for “home birth.” To explore whether meaningful data could still be provided, we conducted a wildcard search using variations of “home” and “birth,” limited to Obstetrics and Neonatology. This returned more than 100 claims.

A manual review of approximately 50 of these claims showed that nearly 20% did not relate to a home birth incident, even where the phrase “home birth” appeared in the record. This demonstrates that keyword searches alone do not yield accurate or reliable results. Many relevant claims would also be missed if they did not include the exact terminology.

Because of these limitations—and the time required to manually review each claim—we are unable to provide reliable data without exceeding the FOIA cost limit.

Our Safety and Learning team plans to undertake a thematic review focusing on home births later this year, which may provide broader insight once completed.

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.

Please refer to [Understanding NHS Resolution data guidance](#) for further details on how our Claims database is categorised.

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/>