

Our Ref: ID 1653

NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group  
Marriss House  
Hamilton Street  
Birkenhead  
Wirral  
CH41 5AL  
Tel: 0151 651 0011

## **Re: Freedom of Information Request – Pregnancy Terminations**

Thank you for your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which was received into this office on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

### **You Asked for:**

1. Do you have a policy, apart from that of the Human Tissue Authority guidelines published March 2015, in respect of the disposal of pregnancy remains resulting from terminations? If so would you please supply me with a copy?
2. How many pregnancy terminations were carried out by your Authority specifically at the Countess of Chester hospital during 2018 and during 2019?
3. How are your staff trained in advising mothers regarding the disposal of pregnancy remains?
4. Of those times when the Countess of Chester has carried out terminations, how many mothers have opted for burial, how many have opted for cremation and how many have given over responsibility to the hospital to decide? If you have a form in this regard could I please have a copy?
5. On those occasions when the mother has asked for the hospital to decide, how many of the individual pregnancy remains have been incinerated, how many cremated and how many buried?
6. Where are the facilities within your authority area for the following:
  - a. Incineration
  - b. Cremation (i.e. Which crematorium)
  - c. Burial
7. Do you assist in any way with the disposal of pregnancy remains on behalf of other NHS Trusts or any Private Pregnancy Termination Facilities? If so could I please have a copy of that agreement?
8. In the case of Pregnancy Remains, from terminations only, how are they packaged for disposal and are they individually labelled identifying the mother and are these details recorded including the detail as to disposal?
9. If the pregnancy remains from the Countess of Chester only are disposed of at a crematorium, which crematorium and do you have an agreement with that specific crematorium?
10. If it is a local crematorium, what is the annual cost of cremation of pregnancy parts from the Countess of Chester?
11. How many requests for termination of a pregnancy made to Cheshire and Wirral Health Authority are redirected to private Termination services such as

BPAS?

12. What is total cost of pregnancy termination annually to your authority separating the cost of disposal of pregnancy parts from all other costs?

**Our Response:**

NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) currently commissions two providers for termination of pregnancy, Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (WUTH) and the British Pregnancy Association (BPAS). I have included their contact details below should you wish to contact them directly:

WUTH – [wih-tr.AccessToInformationOffice@nhs.net](mailto:wih-tr.AccessToInformationOffice@nhs.net)

BPAS – [research@bpas.org](mailto:research@bpas.org)

We hope this information is useful, however if you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Corporate Affairs Team (contact details at the top of this letter)

**Re- Use of Information**

Most of the information that we provide in response to Freedom of Information Act 2000 requests will be subject to copyright protection. In most cases the copyright will be owned by Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group. The copyright in other information may be owned by another person or organisation, as indicated on the information itself.

You are free to use any information supplied for your own non-commercial research or private study purposes. The information may also be used for any other purpose allowed by a limitation or exception in copyright law, such as news reporting. However, any other type of re-use, for example by publishing the information in analogue or digital form, including on the internet, will require the permission of the copyright owner.

For information where the copyright is owned by Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group please e-mail [foirequests.nhswirralccg@nhs.net](mailto:foirequests.nhswirralccg@nhs.net) to request a reuse licence.

For information where the copyright is owned by another person or organisation you must apply to the copyright owner to obtain their permission.