

16-0429 MLU Closures FOI

Original Request

Please could you send the following information, which I understand was collected from the Midwives Local Supervisory Authority:

- 1. The dates (day, month , year) that the following units temporarily closed their doors to new maternity patients from 1st April 2004 onwards (or the earliest date available, if this is later)*
 - The Labour Ward from Princess Royal Hospital, Telford*
 - Shrewsbury Midwife Led Unit from Royal Shrewsbury Hospital*
 - Bridgnorth Midwife Led Unit from Bridgnorth Hospital*
 - Oswestry Midwife Led Unit from Robert Jones & Agnes Hunt Hospital, Oswestry*
 - Ludlow Midwife Led Unit from Ludlow Hospital*
- 2. The date (month, year) of the opening of Wrekin Midwife Led Unit from Princess Royal Hospital, Telford*
- 3. The dates (day, month , year) that Wrekin Midwife Led Unit temporarily closed their doors to new maternity patients from 1st April 2004 onwards (or the earliest date available, if this is later)*
- 4. Bank/agency spend on midwifery staff for each month from April 2010 onwards (or the earliest date available, if this is later).*

Our response

Please note that this information is only available from 2009.

Midwife Led Unit (MLU) Closures Calendar Year 2009

Although there were 4 occasions during 2009 when services in the MLUs were suspended to external admissions, women continued to receive care from the Shropshire Maternity Services. Women were offered the choice of transferring to any of the 4 other MLUs in Shropshire or going to the Consultant Unit.

MLU	DATES	HOURS CLOSED	REASON FOR CLOSURE	HOW MANY WOMEN WERE SENT ELSEWHERE
BRIDGNORTH MLU	28.08.09 - 31.08.09	20.00 28.08 – 09.00 31.08 61 hours	Staff shortages on Consultant Unit	2 women transferred & delivered at Wrekin MLU
	04.09.09 - 07.09.09	48 hours	Staff shortages on Consultant Unit	Not recorded
	25.09.09	24 hours	Staff shortages on Consultant Unit	Not recorded
LUDLOW MLU	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SHREWSBURY MLU	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
OSWESTRY MLU	21.08.09	24 hours	Staff shortages on Consultant Unit	Not recorded
WREKIN MLU	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Midwife Led Unit (MLU) and Consultant Unit Closures Calendar Year 2010

Although there was only 1 occasion when the Labour Ward was closed to external admissions only, women continued to receive care from the Shropshire Maternity Services.

MLU	DATES	HOURS CLOSED	REASON FOR CLOSURE	HOW MANY WOMEN WERE SENT
LABOUR WARD CONSULTANT UNIT	21.04.10	5 hours 45 mins	High activity	1 woman redirected to Wrekin MLU

Midwife Led Unit (MLU) Closures Calendar Year 2011

There were 2 occasions during 2011 when MLU services were suspended to external admissions but women continued to receive care from the Shropshire Maternity Services. Women were offered the choice of transferring to any of the 4 other MLUs in Shropshire or going to the Consultant Unit.

MLU	DATES	HOURS CLOSED	REASON FOR CLOSURE	HOW MANY WOMEN WERE SENT ELSEWHERE
WREKIN MLU	25.02.11 – 26.02.11	10 hours 30 mins	High activity	Not recorded
LUDLOW MLU	06.03.11 – 25.03.11	19 days	Essential maintenance work	Not recorded

Please follow this link to see agency [costs for midwifery](#).