



University Hospitals Sussex

NHS Foundation Trust

Freedom of Information Office

C/O Company Secretary
Worthing Hospital
Lyndhurst Rd
Worthing BN11 2DH

11 August 2022

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI220316

Thank you for your recent request for information under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000.

We are now in a position to respond to your request.

Your request:

1. What antenatal advice does the trust routinely give to mothers about infant skincare including the bathing of babies?
2. What postpartum advice does the trust routinely give to mothers about infant skincare including the bathing of babies?

Our response:

Under Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), the Trust can confirm that it holds information relevant to your request and this has been provided where possible below.

Please note University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust was formed on 1 April 2021, with the merger of Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust and Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

Please see below for information relevant to the Royal Sussex County and Princess Royal Hospitals

In these hospitals, Trust staff do not provide documentary information regarding skincare and bathing of newborn babies in either the ante- or post-natal period. However, parents are given verbal advice recommending that babies should not be bathed for the first 7 – 10 days after birth, and then only with plain water. Parents are also referred to the NHS website for further guidance, and given the following link; [Washing and bathing your baby - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

For information relevant to St. Richard's and Worthing hospitals, please refer to the attached document [Bathing and washing your baby.pdf](#). The information contained within the document is relevant to advice given to parents at both the ante- and post-natal periods.



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If you require clarification or if we can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us at: UHSussex.foi@nhs.net

If after contacting us with any questions or concerns you remain dissatisfied with the outcome of your enquiry, you have the right to appeal. Please email us or write to:

Freedom of Information Office
C/O Company Secretary
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After we have reviewed your complaint, if you are still not satisfied with the outcome of your appeal you can contact the Information Commissioner's Office. This can be done via their website - <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/official-information-concerns-report/official-information-concern/> or via telephone - 0303 123 1113.

We hope you are happy with the processing of your request and that you find any information we have provided helpful.

Yours sincerely,

**Freedom of Information Office
University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust**