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Our ref: 3202

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Freedom of information request

I am writing in response to your request for information which has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Your questions and our responses are shown below:

- (a) Does your trust have a bereavement suite available for use by parents in the event of limited life expectancy of an anticipated birth of a child? **Yes**
- (b) If the answer to (a) is no, what alternative arrangements are available? **N/A**
- (c) If the answer to (a) is yes, would parents of a baby who turn up at hospital with a sudden infant death be allowed to use the bereavement suite? **No, we use the mortuary viewing facilities as under the Coroner's jurisdiction. The bereaved parents may use the facilities of the Sands Room.**
- (d) If the answer is yes to (a) where in relation to the Labour ward is the suite located? **Adjacent to the labour ward, just off of the delivery Suite, with ensuite facilities**
- (e) Do you have bereavement trained midwives? **No** If yes, how many? **N/A**
- (f) Do you have a trained bereavement councillor at the hospital? If yes, what is the average waiting time to be able access support from that councillor? **Yes, approx. 1-2 weeks**
- (g) Do you provide any written information to parents following the loss of a baby? If yes, please name the third sector organisation information is provided from. **Yes Still birth And Neonatal death (SANDS) charity and support group.**
- (h) Can you list the guidelines around infant death which are implemented by the hospital? **The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) Guidelines, and Surrey And Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust Policy, Human Tissue Authority (HTA)**
- (i) Does the hospital provide support around funeral arrangements for infants or babies who have died at the hospital? **Yes**
- (j) Does the hospital advise parents on the advantages of having a post mortem conducted where this is not compulsory? **Yes**