

Reference:	FOI.13645 & 13664.24
Subject:	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) waiting lists & Mental Health
Date of Request:	24 and 25 January 2024

Requested:

FOI.13645 – Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) waiting lists

The number of patients, and average and longest wait, in your Health Board for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS). Please can you provide a breakdown as follows:

1. Total number of CAMHS patient pathways
2. Number on pathway waiting for Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) assessment/ diagnosis/ support
3. Pathway waiting for ADHD diagnosis and assessment/diagnosis/support
4. Pathway waiting for combined ADHD and ASD assessment/diagnosis/support
5. Neurodivergent pathway assessment/diagnosis/support
6. Pathway waiting for Tourette's assessment/diagnosis/support
7. Pathway waiting for eating disorder assessment/diagnosis/support
8. Pathway waiting for personality disorder assessment/diagnosis/support
9. Pathway awaiting for schizophrenia assessment/diagnosis/support
10. Pathway awaiting for schizoaffective disorder assessment/diagnosis/support
11. Pathway waiting for suicidal ideation assessment/diagnosis/support
12. Pathway waiting for OCD assessment/diagnosis/support
13. Pathway waiting for anger management assessment/diagnosis/support
14. Pathway waiting for gender identity assessment/diagnosis/support
15. Pathway waiting for low mood/depression assessment/diagnosis/support
16. Pathway waiting for anxiety assessment/diagnosis/support
17. Pathway waiting for sleep disorders assessment/diagnosis/support
18. Pathway waiting for family therapy assessment/diagnosis/support
19. Pathway waiting for self harm assessment/diagnosis/support

FOI.13664 – Mental Health

1. The number of patients (adults) waiting for a mental health assessment
 2. The number of patients (adults) waiting for psychological support for depression
 3. The number of patients (adults) waiting for psychological support / intervention for anxiety
 4. The number of patients (adults) waiting of psychological support / intervention for OCD
 5. The number of patients (adults) waiting for psychological support / intervention for personality disorders
 6. The number of patients (adults) waiting for psychological support / intervention for bipolar disorder
 7. The number of patients (adults) waiting for psychological support / intervention for eating disorder
 8. The number of patients (adults) waiting for psychological support / intervention for sleep disorders
 9. The number of patients (adults) waiting for psychological support / intervention for schizophrenia
 10. The number of patients (adults) waiting for psychological support / intervention regarding bereavement
 11. The number of patients (adults) waiting for psychological support / intervention for addiction issues (drugs and alcohol)
 12. The number of patients (adults) waiting for psychological support / intervention for self-harm
- For each of the above please can you supply also supply the longest and average wait.

Please can you also supply:

13. The number of children and young people waiting longer than 4 weeks to access mental health treatment
14. The number of people waiting longer six months to access specialist psychological therapies following a referral
15. The number of people waiting to be seen by community mental health teams in your health board
16. The number of people under the care of community mental health teams in your health
17. The number of adult inpatient mental health beds in your health board
18. The average occupancy rate of adult inpatient mental health beds in your health board for each of the last 12 months

19. The number of children's inpatient mental health beds in your health board

20. The average occupancy rate of children's inpatient mental health beds in your health board for each of the last 12 months

Response:

FOI.13645 – CAMHS Waiting lists

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with all of the information requested, as it is estimated that the cost of answering your request would exceed the “appropriate limit” as stated in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. The “appropriate limit” represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours (or 2½ working days) in determining whether the UHB holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

The UHB does not centrally record information relating to Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) assessments for Children and Young People (CYP). Therefore, in order to provide you with all of the requested data for question 3, the UHB would need to undertake a manual trawl of all CYP patient records, to identify the longest and average waiting times.

Additionally for questions 6, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, and 19, as these conditions form part of the CAMHS generic waits, a manual search would therefore also be required to identify the information you require. However, the UHB can confirm that there are currently one hundred and ten (110) generic CAMHS patient pathways. Therefore, to provide you with the exact information being requested for these questions, conducting the search would far exceed the ‘appropriate limit’, costing the UHB the following:

110 @ 15 minutes per item = 27.5 hours
27.5 hours @ £25 per hour = £687.50

The UHB is therefore applying an exemption under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA), which provides an exemption from a public authority’s obligation to comply with a request for information where the cost of compliance is estimated to exceed the appropriate limit.

However, under Section 16 of the FoIA, we are required as a public authority, to provide advice and assistance so far as it is reasonable to individuals who have made a request under the FoIA. Therefore, the UHB provides the accessible information it holds below.

1. The UHB provides, within the table below, the current number of CAMHS patient pathways, and the longest and average waits.

Specialty	Number	Longest wait	Average wait
CAMHS	46	2 weeks	10 weeks
Local Primary Mental Health Support Service (LPMHS) - CYP	21	2 weeks	4 weeks
Crisis	0	0	0
Generic	110	15 weeks	42 weeks

2. The UHB provides, within the table below, the current number of CAMHS patient pathways waiting for an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) assessment/diagnosis/support.

Number	Longest wait	Average wait
2,918	89 weeks	265 weeks

3. CYP waiting for an ADHD assessment are under the specialty of Community Paediatrics and the UHB can confirm that four hundred and ninety-nine (499) CYP were waiting, as at 22 January 2024.

4. The UHB does not hold this information. However, pathways are currently in development with the aim for practitioners to be trained to undertake joint assessments.

5. The UHB does not have a neurodivergent pathway; ASD and ADHD have separate pathways. Please see responses to questions 2 and 3.

6. Section 12 exemption applied.

7. The UHB confirms that there are currently no patients in CAMHS on a pathway for Eating Disorders (ED).

8. The UHB does not hold this information, as personality disorders are not assessed in CAMHS.

9. The UHB is unable to provide you with the information requested, due to the low number of cases (5 and under), as there is a potential risk of identifying individuals if this was disclosed. Therefore, the UHB is withholding these details under Section 40(2) of the FoIA.

This information is protected by the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA)/UK General Data Protection Regulations, as its disclosure would constitute unfair and unlawful processing and would be contrary to the principles and articles of the UK GDPR. This exemption is absolute and therefore, there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.

In reaching this decision, the DPA and UK GDPR define personal data as data that relates to a living individual who can be identified solely from that data or from that data and other information, which is in the possession of the data controller.

10.– 12. Section 12 exemption applied.

13. The UHB does not hold this information, as anger management is not assessed in CAMHS.

14.- 16. Section 12 exemption applied.

17. The UHB does not hold this information, as sleep disorders are not assessed in CAMHS.

18. The UHB confirms that there are currently no patients in CAMHS on a pathway for family therapy.

19. Section 12 exemption applied.

FOI.13664 – Mental Health

A section 12 exemption has been applied (full explanation provided in response to FOI.13645 above) to the average waiting times, as this information is not recorded centrally and therefore a manual search of all MH patient notes would need to be undertaken to provide this data. Additionally, for question 6, a waiting list for Bipolar support is not recorded centrally and therefore, a further manual search of MH patient records would be required to identify the number waiting and the average and longest waits. Furthermore, for question 20, a Paediatric bed is used for all Paediatric patients and not solely for CYP MH patients and again, a manual trawl would be required to identify the CYP MH occupancy rates, as this data is held collectively and is not easily identifiable.

1. The UHB confirms that there are currently two hundred and fifty-seven (257) adults on the Primary Care waiting list for a Mental Health assessment.
2. The UHB provides, within the table below, the current number of adults on the Psychological Therapies Service (PTS) waiting list for psychological support for depression and the longest wait.

Number	Longest wait
62	61 weeks

3. The UHB provides, within the table below, the current number of adults on the PTS waiting list for psychological support/intervention for anxiety and the longest wait.

Number	Longest wait
15	78 weeks

4. The UHB provides, within the table below, the current number of adults on the PTS waiting list for psychological support/intervention for Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) and the longest wait.

Number	Longest wait
29	54 weeks

5. The UHB provides, within the table below, the current number of adults on the PTS waiting list for Psychological Dialectical Behaviour Therapy (DBT) for unstable personality disorders and the longest wait.

Number	Longest wait
61	63 weeks

6. Section 12 exemption applied. However, the UHB can confirm that the PTS will provide support for all patients referred with Bipolar.
7. The UHB does not hold this information, as its PTS does not hold a waiting list for ED.
8. The UHB does not hold this information, as its PTS does not hold a waiting list for sleep disorders. However, a new course is due to commence to support patients with sleep disorders across both Primary Care and Integrated Psychological Therapies.

9. The UHB does not hold this information, as its PTS does not hold a waiting list for Schizophrenia. However, its Cognitive Behavioural Therapists are trained to deliver Cognitive Behavioural Therapy for Psychosis (CBT-p).
10. The UHB does not hold this information, as its PTS does not hold a waiting list for bereavement as this is a third sector commissioned service outside of the NHS and accessed through Primary Care and self-referral.
11. The UHB does not hold this information, as its PTS does not hold a waiting list for addiction issues. Local Substance Misuse Services offer specific support, although the Integrated Psychological Therapies Service (IPTS) will work collaboratively through the co-occurring substance misuse framework with High Impact (HI) intervention, when required.
12. The UHB does not hold this information, as its PTS does not hold a waiting list for self-harm. However, the service will support patients referred with self-harm, but each case will be assessed and offered the correct modality to support their individual needs.
13. The UHB confirms that currently sixty-five (65) CYP have been waiting longer than four (4) weeks for treatment following an assessment.
14. The UHB confirms that two hundred and fifty-seven (257) people have been waiting longer than six (6) months to access specialist psychological therapies following a referral.
15. The UHB confirms that there are currently three hundred and seventy-three (373) adults waiting for an assessment by the Community Mental Health Team (CMHT).
16. The UHB confirms that there are currently one thousand three hundred and ninety-one (1,391) adults and three hundred and fifteen (315) older Adults under a CMHT Care and Treatment Plan (CTP).
17. The UHB confirms that it has fifty-eight (58) adult inpatient Mental Health beds, including low secure beds.
18. The UHB provides, within the table overleaf, the average occupancy percentage of adult inpatient Mental Health beds, by month, during the 2023 calendar year.

2023	Occupancy %	2023	Occupancy %
January	96.6%	July	100%
February	99.3%	August	100%
March	100%	September	100%
April	100%	October	100%
May	100%	November	100%
June	100%	December	100%

19. The UHB confirms that it has two (2) age appropriate crisis beds for CYP, one (1) on an adult acute ward and one (1) on a Paediatric Ward. Additionally, the UHB commissions tier 4 inpatient beds via the Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee (WHSSC).
20. A Section 12 exemption has been applied to the paediatric beds. However, under Section 16 of the FOIA, the UHB provides, within the table below, the average occupancy percentage of the

age appropriate inpatient Mental Health crisis beds for CYP, by month, during the 2023 calendar year.

2023	Occupancy %
January	0%
February	17.9%
March	38.7%
April	20%
May	32.3%
June	100%

2023	Occupancy %
July	80.6%
August	48.4%
September	0%
October	35.5%
November	46.7%
December	100%