

Reference:	FOI.11590.23
Subject:	Disabled children's occupational therapy (OT) services
Date of Request:	28 April 2023

Requested:

Under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) and in relation to disabled children's occupational therapy (OT) services provided in your area (Carmarthenshire), I would be grateful if you could provide the following information to us:

For the following two periods:

- 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022 and
- 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023

- 1) What was the average timeframe from referral of a disabled child to the Occupational Therapy service to the comprehensive assessment of their needs by an Occupational Therapist?

From the date of receipt of this request:

- 2) How many disabled children are currently waiting for an assessment?
- 3) After being referred, what is the longest waiting time that a disabled child is currently waiting for an assessment?

Clarified

In answer to your question clarifying what we mean by a disabled child Newlife considers the same definition as defined by the 2010 Equality Act. Children up to their 18th birthday who have 'a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term negative effect on their ability to do normal/daily activities'.

Response:

- 1) Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) does not hold the information exactly as requested for the periods required, due to the referral to treatment figures overlapping the years requested. Therefore, the UHB confirms that the average time from the referral of a disabled child to the OT service to the comprehensive assessment by an Occupational Therapist, is twenty one (21) weeks, for the combined period from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2023.
- 2) The UHB confirms that there are one hundred and seventy nine (179) disabled children waiting for an assessment, as at the date of your request.
- 3) The UHB confirms that the current longest waiting time from referral to assessment, for a disabled child, is ninety six (96) weeks, as at the date of your request.