

Reference:	FOI.16100.24
Subject:	24 and 48 hour waits in Emergency Departments
Date of Request:	2 December 2024

Requested:

Using the Freedom of Information Act 2002, I am writing to request data on the total number of patients who have waited 48-hours and the total number of patients who waited 24-hours or more from arrival to treatment start time in your Emergency Departments in September 2024 until the most recent date that you hold the data for.

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with the information as requested, as there is a potential risk of identifying individuals if this was disclosed. The UHB is therefore withholding the following details under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act (FoIA):

- The information requested broken down by month, due to the low number of cases (5 and under)
- Where the figure in the table below has been replaced with an asterisk (*) due to the low numbers of cases (less than 5)

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.

However, the UHB provides, within the table below, the number of patients that waited over 24 hours and over 48 hours from their arrival at a UHB Accident and Emergency Department (A&E) to treatment start time, during the period of 1 September to 4 December 2024.

Over 24 hours	Over 48 hours
9	*