

|                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Reference:</b>       | FOI.10189.22            |
| <b>Subject:</b>         | Adult Epilepsy Services |
| <b>Date of Request:</b> | 3 November 2022         |

**Requested:**

I kindly request the following information from Hywel Dda University Health Board ('the health board'):

1. The number of patients referred to neurology for a possible epilepsy diagnosis in the past 5 years – data provided per annum;
2. The number of adult patients diagnosed with Epilepsy across the health board in the past 5 years – data provided per annum;
3. How many patients are currently assigned to each ESN (please specify whether the ESN is part-time or full-time);
4. The number of adult patients waiting for an appointment with the health board's ESNs for the following lengths of time:
  - a. <12 weeks
  - b. <26 weeks
  - c. <39 weeks
  - d. <52 weeks
  - e. >52 weeks
5. The number of adult patients waiting for an appointment with the health board's Consultant Neurologists per the following lengths of time:
  - a. <12 weeks
  - b. <26 weeks
  - c. <39 weeks
  - d. <52 weeks
  - e. >52 weeks

**Response:**

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) provides, within the table below, the number of outpatients referred to Neurology for a possible epilepsy diagnosis, as recorded on the UHB's Welsh Patient Administration System (WPAS), for the calendar years 2017 to 2021.

| Calendar year | Number |
|---------------|--------|
| 2017          | 97     |
| 2018          | 239    |
| 2019          | 90     |
| 2020          | 179    |
| 2021          | 197    |

Please note:- The data provided may contain duplications if the same patient was referred more than once during the same period of time.

2. The (UHB) provides, within the table below, the number of adult patients diagnosed with Epilepsy across the UHB, as recorded on the UHB's Welsh Patient Administration System (WPAS), for the calendar years 2017 to 2021.

| Calendar year | Number |
|---------------|--------|
| 2017          | 1,840  |
| 2018          | 1,638  |
| 2019          | 1,566  |
| 2020          | 1,173  |
| 2021          | 1,261  |

Please note:- The data provided refers to patients who either had epilepsy at the time of admission or were admitted due to epilepsy. This may not be a complete list of all of the UHB's patients recorded with this diagnosis. Additionally, the data provided may contain duplications if the same patient was admitted more than once during the same period of time.

3. The UHB confirms that it has a caseload of three hundred and ninety eight (398) and employs one (1) Whole Time Equivalent (WTE) Agenda for Change (A4C) Band 7 Epilepsy Specialist Nurse (ESN), one (1) WTE A4C Band 6 through Learning Disabilities (LD) and has also appointed one (1) WTE A4C Band 6 who is yet to commence the position.
4. The UHB confirms that it does not have a waiting list for adult patients waiting for an appointment with an ESN. However, as soon as a referral is received from the Neurologist, a letter and leaflet is sent to the patient explaining about open access via telephone. All patients and families can telephone the number provided in the information leaflet and will usually receive a response the same day. If not, the Epilepsy Service will endeavour to respond within two (2) to five (5) working days. If a face-to-face appointment is required, one will be planned as appropriate.
5. The UHB provides, within the table below, the number of adult patients waiting for an appointment with a Consultant Neurologist, for the requested lengths of time, as recorded on the UHB's WPAS, at 30 October 2022.

| Weeks waiting | Number |
|---------------|--------|
| Less than 12  | 59     |
| 13 to 26      | 35     |
| 27 to 39      | 40     |
| 40 to 52      | 15     |
| 53 or more    | 2      |