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| Reference: | FOI.004 |
| Subject: | Alcohol related admissions |
| Date of Request: | 2 January 2019 |

Requested

I am writing to submit a Freedom of Information request about the number of alcohol-related A&E admissions over the festive period (from 1/12/18 to 1/1/19, 1/12/17 to 1/1/18 and 1/12/16 to 1/1/17, with data provided separately for each day).

I would like to know:

- How many alcohol-related admissions there were to A&E
- The total number of A&E admissions

Please break down the admission by type of injury/illness for both of the above bullet points (provided this doesn't exceed the cost limit).

Response:

Attachment 1 provides the number of patients who were attended the Hywel Dda University Health Board's (UHB) Accident and Emergency departments during the requested timeframes and are recorded as having 'alcohol related' as the cause of attendance or 'alcohol' featured in the free text section of the patient's electronic record.

The UHB is unable to provide you with details of the patients individual injuries or illnesses, as it is estimated that the cost of answering your request would exceed the "appropriate level" as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004. The "appropriate level" represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours or (2 ½ working days) in determining whether the UHB holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

In order to provide you with the specific details of their attendance at A&E, the UHB would be required to undertake a manual trawl of the patient's physical medical record. The UHB estimated this to take approximately 42 hours:

629 @ 15 minutes per patient record = 42 hours

4 hours @ £25 per hours = £1,025

The UHB is therefore applying an exemption under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, 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*.