

Reference:	FOI.11473.23
Subject:	Delayed Transfers of Care
Date of Request:	12 April 2023

Requested:

Could I make a further request, based on the snapshot you provided (below).

Furthermore, the UHB holds a snapshot of Delayed Transfers Of Care (DTOC) data, and provides the data by hospital, as held at 1 March 2023, within the table below.

Hospital	Number – DTOC
Bronglais General Hospital	31
Glangwili General Hospital	86
Prince Philip hospital	70
Withybush General Hospital	77

TOTAL = 264 people

1. Of the 264 people waiting to leave hospital who were medically fit for discharge, how many had been waiting:
 - a. 0-1 months
 - b. 1-3 months
 - c. 3-6 months
 - d. 6-12 months
 - e. Over 12 months
2. In the past financial year (2022/23) of all the patients who were discharged, how many waited the following periods of time between being deemed medically fit for discharge, and actually being discharged?
 - a. 0-3 months
 - b. 3-6 months
 - c. 6-12 months
 - d. Over 12 months

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with the number of patients who experienced a delayed transfer of care broken down into the requested categories for the requested financial year, as it is estimated that the cost of answering your request would exceed the “appropriate limit” as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) 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.

In order to provide you with the number of patients, the UHB would need to review all relevant patient records to identify the patients that fulfil the scope of your request.

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*.

However, under Section 16 of the FOIA, the UHB has a duty to provide advice and assistance and can therefore confirm that in response to FOI.11158, the UHB provided a snapshot of medically/clinically optimised data at a fixed point in time. The UHB is unable to provide a further breakdown of that data, due to the inability to trace back this data.

Nevertheless, the UHB has identified an alternative report of Delayed Transfers of Care collated by the Regional Partnership Board. The data provided was reported to Welsh Government on a fortnightly basis – a record of this information is held between 30 September 2022 and 14 March 2023 and provided within Attachment 1.

There is a difference between the figures provided in response to FOI.11158 and FOI.11473 as the two sets of data represent different patient sets.

Medically/Clinically optimised – represents patients who have been approved by the clinical team for discharge.

Delayed Transfer of Care – represents patients who are still awaiting discharge 48 hours after being medically/clinically optimised.