Reference:	FOI.11158.23
Subject:	Discharge data
Date of Request:	1 March 2023

Requested:

1. The number of inpatients who are currently medically fit to leave hospital in your area, but still reside there.

    • Please provide this as a series of data points for the last calendar year and the year to date, broken down by day.

    • For each day, please break the data into further categories which detail the reason behind the delayed discharge.

I am aware that some of the data showing the total number of delayed transfers of care in Wales is published here: https://www.gov.wales/nhs-activity-and-performance-summary-december-2022-and-january-2023 however I am looking for further information relating to the cause of the discharge delay.

For example, the Welsh Government also used to publish a detailed breakdown of reasons behind delayed discharge - https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Health-and-Social-Care/NHS-Performance/Delayed-Transfers-of-Care

By way of illustration, a response may look like this:

01/01/22 - 100 people awaiting discharge, 20 awaiting physiotherapy, 30 awaiting transport home, 50 awaiting care packages

02/01/22 - 90 people awaiting discharge, 15 awaiting physiotherapy, 30 awaiting transport home, 45 awaiting care packages
And so on….

Should the data only be easily available on a weekly basis (as is the format on the total figures currently published by Welsh Government) then I would be happy to accept it in this form instead, especially if this means less work for yourselves.

Please provide this data in a spreadsheet format such as excel or a .csv file, with columns for the date, total number of patients and reasons for delay.

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with all of the information requested, as it is estimated that the cost of answering your request would exceed the "appropriate limit" as stated in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) 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.

The recording of discharge delays has changed numerous times over the requested period and the data for 2022 and the reasons for discharges across the periods requested are not easily accessible. Therefore, in order to provide you with all of the requested data, the UHB would need

to undertake a manual search of all computer systems, to identify the information that fulfils your request, as this is not recorded centrally.

The UHB is therefore applying an exemption under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA), 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, we are required as a public authority, to provide advice and assistance so far as it is reasonable, to individuals who have made a request under the FoIA.

Therefore, the UHB provides a link to the StatsWales website, where historical Delayed Transfers of Care data is available.

[Delays by organisation and percent of NHS beds (gov.wales)](#)

Additionally, as some information relating to your request is already within the public domain, the UHB has applied an exemption under Section 21 of the FoIA, as it is accessible by another means. The UHB has answered a similar Freedom of Information request FOI.10925.23 - Discharge delays, social care and hospital beds, which is available on our disclosure log:

For ease of reference, please click on the attached link, which will take you directly to the UHB's disclosure log webpage:

[Disclosure Log - Hywel Dda University Health Board (nhs.wales)](#)

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