

Reference:	FOI.10675.23
Subject:	Health Visitors (HV)
Date of Request:	12 January 2023

Requested:

I would like to submit this request to obtain the most up to date figures possible for 2022

1. The average (mean) caseload of children under five per full-time equivalent health visitor in the following calendar years?
 - i) 2022
 - ii) 2021
 - iii) 2020
 - iv) 2019
 - v) 2018
2. How many health visiting staff do you currently have in total?
3. The total number of health visiting staff vacancies in the following calendar years?
 - i) 2022
 - ii) 2021
 - iii) 2020
 - iv) 2019
 - v) 2018
4. Please can you confirm whether the recommended visits by health visitors are being offered?

This includes

- i) Home visit at 14 days
- ii) Contact at weeks 8,12 and 16
- iii) Contact at 6 months
- iv) Contact at 15 months
- v) Contact at 27 months
- vi) Contact at 3.5 years
- vii) Handover to school nurse aged 4/5

Response:

- 1) The table below provides the average caseload per health visitor for the timeframe 2019-2022. Please note the caseload includes a mix of generic health visiting and Flying Start families.

Year	Number
2022	236
2021	221
2020	228
2019	224

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) does not hold the requested information for the 2018 calendar year.

- 2) As at 31 December 2022, the UHB employed 77.3 Whole Time Equivalent (WTE) Health Visitors.
- 3) The table below provides the number of vacancies within the Health Visiting Service at fixed points within the calendar years 2019-2022.

Year	Vacancies
2022	7.63 WTE vacancies as at 31 December 2022
2021	11.40 WTE vacancies as at 31 March 2021
2020	13.56 WTE as at 30 June 2020
2019	7.4 WTE as at 28 February 2019

Again, Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) does not hold the requested information for the 2018 calendar year.

- 4) The table overleaf provides a breakdown of the level of service offered by the teams in accordance with the recommended visits detailed within your question.

Please note:- the following information is based on Quarter 3 (October, November and December 2022). The years prior to this service delivery was dependant on the level staffing at that time and agreed risk assessments that were in place.

Visit	Status
Home visit at 14 days	Provided by all Health Visitors throughout the UHB.
Contact at weeks 8,12 and 16	Carmarthenshire – these contacts were carried out either in clinic or at home. Pembrokeshire – these contacts were carried out either in clinic or at home. Ceredigion - these contacts are not always carried out due to significant staffing shortages but a clinic model was in place along with the Hub Phone which provided families with access to the Health Visiting Service if required.
Contact at 6 months	Carmarthenshire – these contacts were carried out either in clinic or at home. Pembrokeshire – these contacts were carried out either in clinic or at home. Ceredigion - families identified as requiring intensive intervention received this contact at home. All families identified as universal/enhanced will have either a clinic appointment or the contact will be carried out virtually by the Community Public Health Nurse (CPHN) under a safe delegation process. In Ceredigion, a HUB phone is also available for families to access support.
Contact at 15 months	Carmarthenshire - All contacts to intensive families are carried out by the Health Visitor in the home. In Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire, due to staff shortages, all universal or enhanced contacts are carried out by the CPHN under a safe delegation process at clinic or in the home. In Ceredigion, a HUB phone is also available for families to access support.

Contact at 27 months	<p>Carmarthenshire - all contacts undertaken by a Health Visitor.</p> <p>Ceredigion – families requiring intensive support or where there are safeguarding concerns receive this contact in the home from a Health Visitor. Families who are requesting support can access the Hub phone in Ceredigion and CPHN will do the contact in clinic or virtual if required.</p> <p>Pembrokeshire - families identified as requiring enhanced/intensive/safeguarding support will receive this contact at home by a Health Visitor. Also, any children who have not been seen at 6 months or 15 months will receive a face-to-face contact in the home.</p>
Contact at 3.5 years	<p>Carmarthenshire - this contact is carried out.</p> <p>Ceredigion – families requiring intensive support or where there are safeguarding concerns receive this contact in the home from a Health Visitor. Families who are requesting support can access the Hub phone in Ceredigion and CPHN will do the contact in clinic or virtual if required.</p> <p>Pembrokeshire - families identified as requiring enhanced/intensive/safeguarding support will receive this contact at home by a Health Visitor</p>
Handover to school nurse aged 4/5	<p>Carmarthenshire – contacts are being handed over in person.</p> <p>Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire – only families requiring intensive support or with safeguarding concerns are handed over virtually. Transition paperwork is completed for all children.</p>