

Reference:	FOI.12561.23
Subject:	Midwifery staff
Date of Request:	31 August 2023

Requested:

Please may you provide me with:

1. The number of FTE funded midwife posts there are for each maternity service at your board?
2. The number of FTE funded midwife posts for each maternity service at your board which were vacant as of the start of August 2023 (excluding those on maternity or long term sick leave where sick leave has lasted for one month or longer)?
3. The number of FTE funded midwife posts for each maternity service at your board which were vacant as of 1st May 2023 (excluding those on maternity or long term sick leave where sick leave has lasted for one month or longer)?
4. The date of the most recent Birthrate Plus study of midwifery staffing for each service within your board?
5. The number of FTE funded midwife posts that Birthrate Plus recommended your trust employ for each maternity service at your board?
6. For each of the last five years, how many red flag events have been recorded for each of the board's maternity services?

Response:

1. to 3. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with the information exactly as requested, as midwifery staff are included in an all Nursing and Midwifery (N&M) staff group. However, the UHB provides, within the tables below, the budgeted, actual and vacant Whole Time Equivalent (WTE) allocation, for the Maternity Services category within the N&M staff group, which were the same, as at 30 April and 31 July 2023.

Maternity Services	Budget WTE	Allocation WTE	Vacancy WTE
Community Midwives - Carmarthenshire	48.6	45.3	3.3
Dinefwr Ward, Glangwili General Hospital (GGH)	73.8	81.6	-7.7
Gwenllian, Bronglais General Hospital	25.3	22.7	2.5
Flying Start Project (Midwifery) – Carmarthenshire	1.0	1.0	0.0
Flying Start Project (Midwifery) – Pembrokeshire	0.6	0.6	0.0
Midwifery Specialist Nurses	5.2	9.4	-4.2
Antenatal Clinic, GGH	3.6	3.8	-0.2
Midwifery Led Unit (MLU), GGH	2.8	0.0	2.8
Antenatal Clinic, Withybush General Hospital	6.5	6.9	-0.4

Total	167.4	171.3	-3.9
<p>4. The UHB confirms that the most recent Birth-rate Plus study of midwifery staffing was in January 2023.</p> <p>5. The Birth-rate Plus study of midwifery staffing recommended 156.58 WTE clinical midwives providing care, with management and specialist midwives advised as 17.17 WTE.</p> <p>6. The UHB does not hold all of the information requested, as the Birth-rate Plus Labour Ward acuity tool was only adopted late in the 2022/2023 financial year. However, during that period, the UHB has had seven (7) red flag events, none of which have lasted more than four (4) hours. Mitigation has been put in place during these periods and both community and specialist midwives have been released to support the Labour Ward and MLU.</p>			