

<b>Reference:</b>	FOI.8119.22
<b>Subject:</b>	NHS Continuing Healthcare (CHC) funding
<b>Date of Request:</b>	1 February 2022

**Requested:**

If retrieving all of the below data exceeds the appropriate limit for the FOI, please answer only questions 1c, 2c and all of question 5.

1. How many individuals were granted NHS Continuing Healthcare funding via the Fast-Track Pathway in the following financial years?
  - a. 2018-19
  - b. 2019-20
  - c. 2020-21
2. How many individuals initially granted NHS Continuing Healthcare funding via the Fast-Track Pathway had a Decision Support Tool (DST) assessment in the following financial years:
  - a. 2018-19
  - b. 2019-20
  - c. 2020-21
3. How many of the individuals outlined in answer 2a were found by the DST assessment to be:
  - a. Eligible for Continuing Healthcare funding
  - b. No longer eligible for Continuing Healthcare funding
  - c. Other (please detail where possible)
4. How many of the individuals outlined in answer 2b were found by the DST assessment to be:
  - a. Eligible for Continuing Healthcare funding
  - b. No longer eligible for Continuing Healthcare funding
  - c. Other (please detail where possible)
5. How many of the individuals outlined in answer 2c were found by the DST assessment to be:
  - a. Eligible for Continuing Healthcare funding
  - b. No longer eligible for Continuing Healthcare funding
  - c. Other (please detail where possible)

**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 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.

Some of the information being requested is not held centrally, and so in order to provide you with the historical data requested for questions 2, 3 and 4, the UHB would need to undertake a review of notes from the Eligibility and Quality Assurance Panel meetings to identify the patients that

meet the criteria for continuing healthcare and then cross reference with individual patient files to determine the actual numbers, for each of the two (2) financial years requested.

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 FoIA and therefore the UHB provides the accessible information below.

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) provides, within the table below, the number of individuals that were granted NHS CHC funding via the Fast-Track Pathway, during the financial years 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21.

Financial year	Number
2018/19	363
2019/20	416
2020/21	470

Please note:- The numbers provided do not reflect the total amount of care delivered to people requiring end of life care, as the District Nurses and Community Care Teams provide care through core services without the requirement of completing a fast-track assessment application.

2. The UHB provides, within the table below, the number of individuals initially granted NHS CHC funding via the Fast-Track Pathway that had a Decision Support Tool (DST) assessment, during the financial year 2020/21.

Financial year	Number
2018/19	Section 12 exemption applied
2019/20	
2020/21	9

Please note:- A further 8 DST assessments were undertaken during the financial year 2021/22 for patients who had their fast-track funding approved in 2020/21.

3. & 4. Section 12 exemption applied.

5. Of the information provided in response to question 2 for the 2020/21 financial year, within the table below, the UHB provides the number of applications that received each decision outcome.

DST assessment	Number
Eligible for Continuing Healthcare funding	3
No longer eligible for CHC funding	2
Other – Funded Nursing Care	4