

Reference:	FOI.13690.24
Subject:	Postnatal depression
Date of Request:	30 January 2024

Requested:

1. How many women were referred for treatment because of potentially suffering from postnatal depression (PND) since 2016?
2. How many women were diagnosed with postnatal depression (PND) since 2016?
3. How many women that have been diagnosed with postnatal depression (PND) since 2016 were from a BAME background since 2016?
4. How many mental health specialists are there who treat people suffering from postnatal depression (PND) in the trust?
5. How many women diagnosed or referred for treatment of postnatal depression were classed as from socially deprived areas?

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 Act 2000 and the 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.

As the data requested for questions 1, 2, 3 and 5, is not recorded centrally, the UHB would be required to undertake a manual trawl of perinatal patients’ notes, for the requested period, to identify any information that would fulfil these parts of your request, as any working diagnosis, ethnicity or details on whether patients are from a deprived area are not routinely recorded.

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, the UHB has a duty to provide advice and assistance. Therefore, the UHB provides the accessible information it holds below.

1. Section 12 exemption applied. However, under Section 16, the UHB can confirm that four thousand eight hundred and ninety-one (4,891) referrals in total were received by the Perinatal Service, from 2016 through to 2023.
2. & 3. Section 12 exemption applied.
4. The UHB confirms that in 2016, the Perinatal Service was very small. It was a pilot service initially covering the county of Pembrokeshire. However, the Service has since been expanded to cover Carmarthenshire and Ceredigion. The UHB provides the job roles within the Perinatal Service and the Whole Time Equivalent (WTE), within the table below:

Job role	WTE
Perinatal Peer Mentor Support Workers	2.2
Specialist Perinatal Therapeutic Practitioner	1
Specialist Pharmacist	0.6
Specialist Midwife	1.0
Specialist Health Visitor	1.0
Specialist Counselling Psychologist (role also encompasses Parent Infant Therapist)	1.0
Administration	2.0
Consultant Psychiatrist	0.4
Specialist Occupational Therapist	0.8
Perinatal OT Tech	0.4
Specialist Nursery Nurse	1.0
Specialist Nurses (1.0 currently being recruited)	3.6
Specialist Therapeutic Social Worker	1.0
Specialist Team Lead	1.0
Perinatal and Infant Mental Health Service Manager	1.0
CBT Therapist	1.0

Please note:- staffing is to meet the Perinatal Community Services College Centre for Quality Improvement (CCQI) Guidelines 6th edition.

5. Section 12 exemption applied. However, under Section 16, the UHB provides, within the table below, the number of referrals in total received by County, from 2016 through to 2023.

County	Number
Carmarthenshire	2,148
Ceredigion	679
Pembrokeshire	2,148
Other	16