

<b>Reference:</b>	FOI.11688.23
<b>Subject:</b>	Psychiatric inpatient wards
<b>Date of Request:</b>	11 May 2023

**Requested:**

This FOI request relates to people admitted to psychiatric inpatient wards who are parents. By 'inpatient ward' we refer to: any ward that provides primarily psychiatric care, that has provision for overnight use, including locked and unlocked wards; including male, female, and mixed wards; including rehabilitation and forensic wards.

We do not need data relating to wards that are (or were during time period in question) exclusively delivering care to patients with dementia, or exclusively delivering care to older adults, or exclusively delivering care to children and adolescents (CAMHS).

Where possible please provide data on forensic wards separately from other types of ward.

By 'parent', we refer to any individual who has a child/children aged under 18 years (this can include step/foster/adopted/biological children). These parents need not necessarily have current caring responsibility (e.g. their child/children could be in temporary foster care).

We also include as a 'parent' any individual who has any other formal residential caring responsibility for a child aged under 18 years (e.g. where a grandparent has parental responsibility for a grandchild).

We are seeking data covering the period from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 inclusive.

Please provide the following data, as far as is reasonably possible:

1. Admissions Data:

- a. How many individual admissions (for one night or more) were made to each psychiatric inpatient ward in the Trust. This question refers to all patient admissions, not just parents.

If possible, please provide this information disaggregated by ward, and for each ward, please indicate:

- Ward gender type (male/female/mixed)
- Mean age of patients admitted during reporting period

- b. How many of the patients reported under 1.a. were parents (as defined above)?

If possible, please provide this information disaggregated by ward, and for each ward, please indicate:

- Ward gender type (male/female/mixed)
- Mean age of patients admitted during reporting period

2. Parental Status Data Collection:

- a. What data are routinely collected on parental status when inpatients are admitted or during their care? For example, are any of the following recorded: parenthood status, parental responsibility,

children's age, involvement of statutory services, where child currently resides? Is any other related information routinely recorded?

3. Trust/ward policies and procedures:

- a. Please provide copies of Trust policy documents which include reference to the needs of psychiatric inpatients who are parents and their families (e.g. family visit policies).
- b. Please provide copies of any internal guidelines/SOPs used by wards to manage child visits to wards.
- c. Please provide a copy of each inpatient ward induction/welcome pack for inpatients.
- d. Please provide a copy of any written information provided to carers of inpatients.
- e. Please provide a copy of information provided to the carers of children of inpatients while they are inpatients (e.g. foster carer, grandparent).
- f. Please provide a copy of any information provided to child(ren) of inpatients.

For items a-f, please state if no such materials exist.

4. Child visits:

- a. During the reporting period, how many parents received at least one visit from their child/ren during their inpatient ward admission?
- b. During the reporting period, how many individual visits were made by children to inpatient psychiatric wards?

5. Family-friendly facilities:

- a. Please provide a description of any family visit room(s) on each inpatient ward (include details of fixtures and fittings).
- b. For each family room, state whether it is used solely for the purpose of family visits.
- c. Please provide a photograph of each family room (a snapshot from a phone is fine).

**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.

As the information requested for questions, 1b, 2a, 4a and 4b is not recorded centrally, the UHB would need undertake a manual trawl of all Mental Health (MH) inpatient records, for the 2018 and 2019 calendar years, to identify any information that may fulfil your request.

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 has provided the accessible information it holds for questions 1a, 3 and 5 overleaf.

1a. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) provides, within the table below, the number of individual admissions to a UHB psychiatric inpatient ward, by ward, ward gender type and the average age of patients, during the 2018 and 2019 calendar years.

Ward name	Ward type	Number admitted	Average age
Bryngofal	Mixed	447	38.9
Cwm Seren Low Secure Unit (LSU)	Male only	12	42.7
Cwm Seren Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU)	Mixed	144	37.6
Morlais	Mixed	337	42.9
St. Caradog	Mixed	400	39.6

Please note:- the data provided above is for direct admissions only and does not include patients transferred between wards.

3a. The UHB provides copies of the policies that refer to the needs of psychiatric inpatients who are parents and their families below:

- Attachment 1 - In-patient Visitors Policy
- Attachment 2 – Carers Policy

3b. The UHB confirms that it does not hold the information requested as it does not allow family members into its inpatient psychiatric wards.

However, if visitation has been risk assessed and agreed, there are meeting and family rooms available that can be used; children under the age of eighteen (18) must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

3c. The UHB provides copies of its patient information leaflets for each of its psychiatric inpatient wards, at the attachments below:

- Bryngofal Ward      Patient information leaflet, at Attachment 3
- Cwm Seren LSU      Service User leaflet, at Attachment 4  
Ward expectations, at Attachment 5
- Cwm Seren PICU      Service User leaflet, at Attachment 6
- Morlais Ward      Welcome pack, at Attachment 7
- St. Caradog      Patient information leaflet (currently being finalised),  
at Attachment 8

3d. The UHB provides copies of its written information for carers at each of its psychiatric inpatient wards, at the attachments below:

- Bryngofal Ward Carers leaflet, at Attachment 9
- Cwm Seren LSU Carers pack, at Attachment 10
- Cwm Seren PICU Carers pack, please see Attachment 10
- Morlais Ward Welcome pack, please see Attachment 7
- St. Caradog Patient information leaflet, please see Attachment 8

Additionally, on arrival to Morlais Ward, there is a well displayed carer awareness notice board which has relevant and useful information for carers

3e. The UHB provides copies of the information provided to carers of children at each of its psychiatric inpatient wards, at the attachments below:

- Bryngofal Ward Carers leaflet, please see Attachment 9
- Cwm Seren LSU Carers pack, please see Attachment 10
- Cwm Seren PICU Carers pack, please see Attachment 10
- Morlais Ward Do not hold the information requested.
- St. Caradog Patient information leaflet, please see Attachment 8

However, Morlais Ward encourages transparent and effective information sharing and confidentiality, taking into consideration the wishes of the patient. Family and significant others will always be considered to attend ward reviews if suitable, necessary and appropriate.

3f. The UHB confirms that it does not hold the information requested; any information would be provided to the child's legal guardian.

5a. The UHB provides a description of its family visiting rooms on each of its inpatient wards below:

- Bryngofal Ward - The family visiting room is situated off the ward, between the handover/ward round room and the main ward itself. It is a small room, with one (1) twin sofa and one (1) single sofa. Toys are also available in the room, which is cleaned regularly.
- Cwm Seren - The family visiting room is situated on a corridor between both the LSU and PICU wards and is used by both wards. The room is small, with a small window which is high up and overlooks the PICU garden. The family room has (2) two armchairs and additional office chairs; there is also a leaflet stand with books and general information leaflets.
- Morlais Ward has the use of two (2) rooms for family visitations, which have been utilised previously as environments suitable for children and relatives.
  - Room 1 – is not situated on the ward; however, it is within a couple of metres of the front door. This room has some chairs and a table which are used as necessary. The visit can be supervised by the nursing team if deemed necessary. The room is bright and airy and is easily accessed by staff if required.
  - Room 2 – is also not situated on the ward; however, it is easily accessed across the foyer of the ward entrance. The room consists of tables and chairs which can easily be moved to accommodate whatever requirements are necessary. The windows have curtains which can be drawn to promote privacy and maintain dignity. The room can also be supported and supervised by staff.

- St. Caradog - The family visiting room is a small area with a sofa and a chair and more seating can be provided if required. It has the ability to be kept separate from the main ward with its own designated entrance to allow the safe movement of vulnerable family members and minors into the visitation area without risk.

5b. The UHB confirms the following for each of its inpatient ward family visiting rooms:

- Bryngofal Ward – The family visiting room is mainly for the purpose of family visits. However, on occasion, the room is used for family members to wait whilst ward rounds are undertaken/completed.
- Cwm Seren LSU and PICU - The family visiting room is mainly for the purpose of family visits. However, on occasion when not in use, the room may be used for other purposes e.g., for meetings.
- Morlais Ward – Neither of the two (2) rooms used are solely for family visits
- St. Caradog - The family visiting room is primarily for visitation and does have a booking system to ensure that it is used for its primary function. However, this room is also used for advocacy and non-medical reviews with patients when it is not fulfilling its primary function.

5c. The UHB provides copies of the photographs it holds, of its psychiatric inpatient ward family rooms, at Attachment 11.