

Reference:	FOI.15192.24
Subject:	Speech and Language Therapists (S<)
Date of Request:	4 September 2024

Requested:

1. Total number of speech and language therapists employed within your Health Board.
2. Of those who are employed, how many offer services and treatment through the medium of Welsh.

Response:

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) confirms that it currently employs a Whole Time Equivalent (WTE) of 62.3 S<, as recorded in the UHB's Electronic Staff Record (ESR) system, as at 12 September 2024.
2. The UHB provides within the table overleaf, the Welsh Language skill level and the headcount of its S<, as recorded on the UHB's ESR system, as at 12 September 2024.

Skill level	Headcount
0 - No Skills / Dim Sgiliau	16
1 - Entry/ Mynediad	15
2 - Foundation / Sylfaen	13
3 - Intermediate / Canolradd	*
4 - Higher / Uwch	6
5 - Proficiency / Hyfedredd	19

Where the figure in the table has been replaced with an asterisk (*), the UHB is unable to provide you with the exact figure due to the low number (less than 5), as there is a potential risk of identifying individuals if this was disclosed. The UHB is therefore withholding this detail under Section 40(2) of the FoIA. This information is protected by the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA)/UK General Data Protection Regulations, as its disclosure would constitute unfair and unlawful processing and would be contrary to the principles and articles of the UK GDPR. This exemption is absolute and therefore, there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.

In reaching this decision, the DPA and UK GDPR define personal data as data that relates to a living individual who can be identified solely from that data or from that data and other information, which is in the possession of the data controller.