

<b>Reference:</b>	FOI.9120.22
<b>Subject:</b>	Stillbirths
<b>Date of Request:</b>	8 June 2022

**Requested:**

Under the Freedom of Information Act, can you please let me know the number of still births recorded for each year from 2012 including the year to date.

**Response:**

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with all of the information being 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 2 ½ working days) in determining whether the UHB holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

The UHB’s Maternity Services data was not recorded centrally for the calendar years 2012 to 2014 inclusive. Therefore, in order to provide you with all of the information being requested, the UHB would need to undertake a manual search of all Maternity patient records, to identify the number of stillbirths for these calendar years.

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.

Therefore, the UHB provides, within the table below, the number of stillbirths recorded, for the calendar years 2015 to 2021.

<b>Calendar year</b>	<b>Still births</b>
2015	13
2016	20
2017	13
2018	14
2019	11
2020	7
2021	11

Please note:- the UHB records a stillbirth as a baby born with no signs of life after 24 weeks’ gestation as defined by Mothers and Babies: Reducing Risk through Audits and Confidential Enquiries (MBRRACE).