

Reference:	FOI.11497.23
Subject:	Use of dogs in the Health Board
Date of Request:	17 April 2023

Requested:

1. Does the trust use dogs for any therapeutic or medicinal purposes (eg. PAT / autism/epilepsy/ diabetes assistance) within your hospitals or for patients at home?
2. If so, are these dogs engaged as part of the NHS or through an external organisation (such as Support Dogs charity)
3. Please could you specify how many dogs have been engaged for each of the last ten calendar years (2012-2022), broken down by purpose. (eg. PAT / autism/epilepsy/ diabetes assistance)
4. Please list the main breeds used with the most commonly used breeds first.
5. How many full time members of staff (trainers, handlers, officers etc) worked with these dogs for each of the years in the same period?
6. What was the trust's total budget for each of these years and how much was allocated to the dog unit?

I would like the above information to be provided to me in a table format on a searchable document or spreadsheet.

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) regrets to inform you that it does not hold the information requested. However, the UHB can confirm that it has used Carmarthenshire Therapy Dogs and Cariad Pet Therapy, who hold their own records.

You may want to contact the above-named organisations for further details in relation to your request. The hyperlinks to their websites have been provided below:

[Carmarthenshire Therapy Dogs \(dewis.wales\)](http://dewis.wales)

[Home | Cariad Pet Therapy | Therapy Dogs | Wales](#)