

Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMHB_117_20

You asked:

I would be grateful if you could answer the following questions in as much detail as possible. If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me via email below.

1. Did the health board commission a breastfeeding support service (including peer support) in the years 2014-2019?

I can confirm that the Health Board did not commission breastfeeding support in the years 2014-2019.

2. If breastfeeding support was not directly commissioned, did the health board provide funding for breastfeeding support in the years 2014-2019. If so who provided the service (eg health visiting / midwifery) and please supply details, including budget (per year) and number of service users accessing the service for each of the years 2014-2019.

Midwifery, Health Visiting and Neonatal services had named Infant Feeding co-ordinators (IFCs) which varied across each service during the period from 2014-2019.

The IFC in Midwifery was in post 37.5 hours from 2014-2019;

The following roles were part-time hours, in Health Visiting IFC - 22 hours from 2016 (no IFC from 2014-July 2016) and Neonatal IFC - 6 hours from 2014- 2018 and then increased to 30 hours in 2019.

Breastfeeding groups have operated across Cwm Taf run by Health Visitors, Midwife and voluntary breastfeeding peer supporters, data of attendees is not held on file.

The number of service users accessing the service has not been recorded.

Breastfeeding Clinic was introduced to support mothers with any ongoing breastfeeding challenges in 2018 and run by both the Infant Feeding Lead Health Visitor and Midwife; A total of 84 mothers have been seen face to face in this clinic from 2018-2019.

No budget details specifically for breastfeeding support are available for this time period.

3. If the health board did not commission a breastfeeding support service, did it fund breastfeeding support from lay breastfeeding supporters (non-health professionals), for example from professional breastfeeding counsellors, in the years 2014-2019? Please supply details, including budget (per year) and number of service users accessing the service for each of the years 2014-2019.

The Health Board has not funded breastfeeding support from lay peer supporters during the years 2014-2019.