

Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_464_21

You asked:

Can you provide the following information under the FOIA, please?

The 10 longest delayed discharges, expressed in days, for the health board in 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20, and 2020/21 (so far).

Our response:

The Welsh Government guidelines for DTOC (Delayed Transfers of Care) reporting is that they are monitored and submitted on a census date (the 3rd Wednesday of the month). Therefore, we do not keep a central record of the longest delays. Also, due to the mechanism of reporting delays on a monthly basis, it would be difficult to provide the 10 longest delays across the years requested from the information submitted, due to the fact that many patients may feature several times.

The detailed information that you require would be recorded within an individual patient's health record as part of their ongoing care. To provide you with this information, would require a manual trawl and significantly exceed the 18 hours time and £450 cost limit set out within Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Additionally, at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Welsh Government suspended delayed transfers of care (DTOC) reporting requirements so there is no central data available for the last two years specified.

However, in order to fulfil our obligation under Section 16 of the Act to provide advice and assistance, may we suggest that you visit the Stats Wales website, where historical Delayed Transfers of Care are reported up until the beginning of the pandemic.

<https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Health-and-Social-Care/NHS-Performance/Delayed-Transfers-of-Care/delays-by-organisation-percentofnhsbeds>