

Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_277_25

You asked:

I am writing to follow up on a recent Freedom of Information response (referring to referrals to the Eating Disorders Intervention Team, ED-IT, from 2018–2024) provided by Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board. The response noted that the ED-IT service was closed to referrals in May 2022 due to staffing limitations, and that it reopened in August 2023 following investment from Welsh Government in recruitment and training. Please find the relevant response attached below;

6. The number of patients referred to your Tier 2 system of The Eating Disorders Intervention Team (ED-IT) each year from 2018-2024.

a. Into monthly figures;

Referrals for Eating Disorders	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
January	0	**	0	0	20
February	0	8	0	0	22
March	0	**	0	0	12
April	0	**	0	0	23
May	0	0	0	0	23
June	0	0	0	0	16
July	0	0	0	0	15
August	**	0	0	16	30
September	**	0	0	5	24
October	**	0	0	23	7
November	0	0	0	20	
December	**	0	0	18	
Total	10	15	0	82	192

Please note:

- Where the figures are less than 5, this has been denoted by **.
- We are unable provide data for 2018, 2019.
- In May 2022, the team was closed to referrals due to single member of staff and service placed at risk. Following service improvement funding from Welsh Government there was investment in recruitment and training during 2022 and 2023. In August 2023 the service re-opened to referrals to the Health Board. Prior to the current team function and delivery, data was not recorded with the provisions that are currently established.

I would be grateful if you could shed any more light on the reasons for this, and advise whether a report, service review, or internal document was produced as part of this period of service improvement and, if so, whether it would be possible to request a copy. If no such document exists, or if it is not available for disclosure, I would appreciate any further details that can be provided regarding the nature of the service development process and the reasons for which the service was paused.

Our response:

There is no formal documentation available to share. To clarify the rationale behind the team's decision to close to referrals in May 2022: with only one staff

member (a dietitian) in post at the time, it was deemed unsafe and unfeasible to deliver the psychological, evidence-based interventions required. Regarding service development, from October 2022 to August 2023, recruitment took place to fill the necessary roles to support both dietetic and psychological evidence-based interventions. This increased the team's capacity to 12 staff members.