

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request Reference Fol/20/125**

**Breast Feeding**

**Request details**

Dear Cardiff and Vale University Health Board,

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? If so, please supply details, including budget (per year) and number of service users accessing the service for each of the years 2014-2019. Please attach a copy of the most recent service specification.**

The breastfeeding support service uses a team approach (Seren Team), which includes Infant feeding leads, midwives and skilled community maternity health care assistants as well as peer support volunteers. This team is based both in hospital and in the community. This support system incorporates the following systems,

- Breastfeeding workshops during pregnancy
- Tongue Tie Division service
- Extra support with early feeding problems in hospital
- Specialist community drop in clinics, 3 drop in clinics per week across Cardiff and the Vale.
- Early reweighing following birth with plans of action made.

The numbers below show how many women breastfed following birth and therefore may have accessed support from Seren team either during their hospital stay or in the community (home visits and drop in clinics)

2014 – BF Only 3495

2015 – BF Only 3513

2016 – BF Only 3583

2017 – BF Only 3489

2018 – BF Only 3493

2019 – BF Only 3284

The average number of women attending the 3 specialist drop in community clinics is around 2000 per annum. (160 per month).

The budget will be in relation to staff wages. There is no separate budget for 'breastfeeding support' other than providing staff time and costs to provide dedicated commitment

- 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 (e.g. 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.**

Not applicable, please refer to question 1

- 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.**

Not applicable, please refer to question 1