

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – PHYSIOTHERAPY SERVICES

April 2022

**Request 1:** Please confirm how many whole time equivalent (WTE) physiotherapists, technicians and assistants, by Agenda for Change (AfC) band, were employed by Cardiff & Vale University Health Board (children & young people's services and adult services) on the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2022.

This should include any generic assistant or technical instructor posts that support physiotherapy service provision. Also, please note that physiotherapy staff work in a range of clinical settings. The answer to this request must also capture physiotherapy staff not directly line-managed by the head of physiotherapy services eg occupational health, community resource teams (CRTs).

**Table 1 – March 2022**

Staff Group	Payband	WTE Staff in Post	WTE Vacancies
Allied Health Professionals	Band 8c	1	0
	Band 8b	5.13	0
	Band 8a	23.91	-2.8
	Band 7	93.72	-3.75
	Band 6	118.58	-8.28
	Band 5	64	-8.0
	Additional Clinical Services	Band 5	1
	Band 4	33.04	0
	Band 3	44.11	0
	Band 2	5.23	-6.25

**The following posts are Physios in AHP Lead roles**

**0.2WTE 8B Stroke (national)**

**1.0WTE 8B & 1.0WTE 8A Major Trauma**

**1.0WTE 8A Community Neuro**

**0.2WTE 8A Orthopaedics (interim)**

**0.8WTE 8A Paeds (interim)**

**Request 2:** Please confirm how many whole time equivalent (WTE) physiotherapist, technician and assistant vacancies were held in Cardiff & Vale University Health Board as of 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2021. The answer should identify the number of registered physiotherapists and the number of unregistered support staff as separate figures. Do not include admin and clerical.

See table for Request 1

**Request 3:** Please confirm or deny if Cardiff & Vale University Health Board has had any periods of time within the last 12 months to the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2022 where recruitment to

posts has been delayed? If confirmed, please provide reasons (short narrative) for the delay.

No delays in recruitment.

**Request 4:** Please confirm or deny whether there have been any physiotherapy service developments in Cardiff & Vale University Health Board during the last financial year (April 2021 to end of March 2022).

If confirmed:

- a. Please provide details of the developments.
- b. Please confirm or deny whether these were supported by additional resources.

#### **A. Physiotherapy developments in response to COVID pandemic**

##### **1. Supporting acute inpatients (Temporary Redeployed staff and additional funding for temporary additional staffing and enhancements for unsocial hours)**

Increased staffing levels across inpatient wards supporting fundamentals of care in addition to providing physiotherapy service

Development of and implementation of 7-day service model short stay medical ward (RBFT)

Development of and implementation of 7-day service model trauma wards UHL (University Hospital Llandough)

Development and implementation of a protected elective surgical unit

##### **2. Unscheduled MSK care additional temporary funding**

Between January 2021 and March 2021 temporary additional funding was used to enhance the unscheduled MSK care provision within Cardiff and Vale at Barry Community Hospital. As part of this enhancement the expert MSK Physiotherapist also worked with the 24/7 virtual triage team to signpost patients to appropriate primary / community care services where appropriate. The benefits seen through this pilot has led to the 24/7 team to establish an expert MSK Physiotherapist as part of their team. From 1/1/22 a Physiotherapist is available to support patients contacting the 111 / 24/7 service with a MSK condition from Monday to Friday. This support is primarily virtual, but there is some in person support at Barry Community Hospital available as part of the model.

##### **3. Development of virtual consultations and delivery of class interventions for physiotherapy outpatients (Additional resource – IT equipment only)**

This included:

Hybrid face to face/virtual model - Stay steady virtual clinics to support potential fallers in the community delivered by shielding staff & expansion into Vale of Glamorgan

Virtual consultations in ECAS.

Virtual delivery of Living Well with a Neurological Condition programmes.

ESCAPE pain for hip and knees provided online via Zoom (1hour x2 Weekly for 6/52)

ESCAPE backs Provided Via Zoom (1hour x2 Weekly for 6/52)

Foodwise for life with activity advice (1hour x1 a week 8/52 programme)

Low impact chair-based exercise programme - Community Neuro (45mins x1 a week up to 12/52)

Upper limb Activity programme - Community Neuro (1hour x1 a week 6/52)

Tai Chi online (1hour x1 a week 6/52)

1:1 virtual Physio if requested in CNRS / ESD (Stroke)

Virtual delivery of BMT Out-patient appointments and routine follow-up appointments

Virtual delivery of all MSK outpatient services across the pathway including FCP, CMATS and core delivery one to one appointments and group intervention

Hybrid face to face/virtual model consultations/classes within Breast Cancer service

Hybrid face to face/virtual model Prepare Well - Pre / post admission virtual/face to face consultation/classes to enhance the orthopaedic pathway (covid recovery funded)

Hybrid model Cystic Fibrosis virtual/face to face consultations, virtual leisure centre (on demand and live exercise sessions) & gene modifying drugs have also changed the landscape of CF care.

**All services are now offering face to face interventions but are utilising the learning from the virtual consultations to further develop blended models of care.**

#### **4. Other Virtual Developments**

Pelvic Health – Developed a virtual class for Pregnancy related Pelvic pain (Within existing resources)

Development of nudging material/ resources for MSK surgical pathway (within existing resources)

Virtual student training for neuro placements

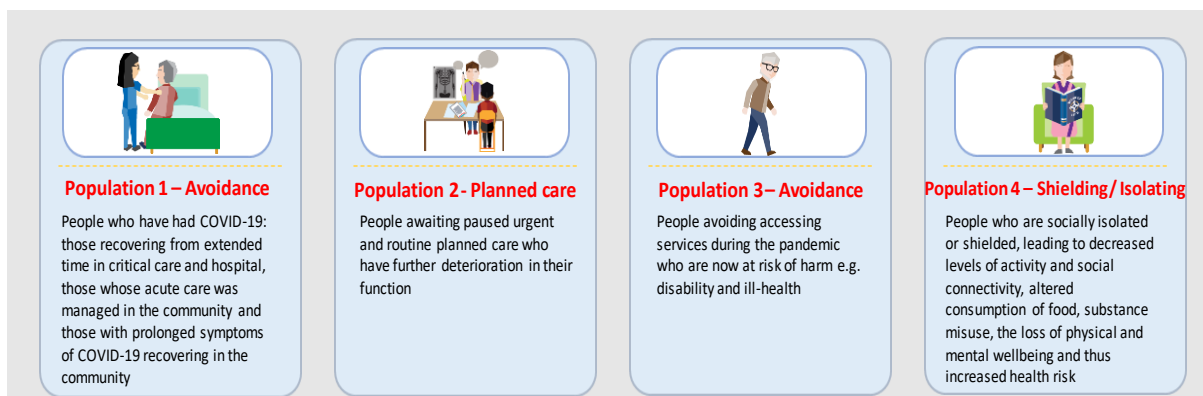
Virtual work experience package for observation.

Renal Transplant- “Balance” Prehabilitation programme was redesigned and now offers a blended model of care. Patients preparing for renal transplant will be offered either face to face classes or a virtual programme to improve fitness and nutritional levels prior to surgery.

## 6. Keeping Me Well Website

The Keeping Me Well website is a Cardiff and Vale UHB website for therapies. The website provides useful information and resources that support the therapy services available in CaV, directs people to the right services, and supports people with self-care (e.g. provides information about techniques to pace activity during recovery, techniques to improve fitness etc.)

Initially the website was designed to support service users from the 4 patient groups Identified by the Welsh government who have been impacted by COVID. The Website has now expanded to incorporate many more services who have uploaded content to support their service users and help promote self-care and self-management. The site aims to provide a wholistic view to condition management and signposts to relevant 3<sup>rd</sup> sector and community services.



## 7. COVID Rehabilitation Team

### Long COVID Rehabilitation Team

Is an interdisciplinary therapy team supporting and enabling individuals to live well and manage the long-term effects of Long COVID. The team deliver psychological informed rehabilitation and individualised recovery plans by utilising existing rehabilitation resources, and brief COVID rehab team interventions through the delivery of a set of group-based interventions.

The team provides education and supportive self-management strategies encompassing fatigue management, breathing advice, cognition and psychological support, taste and smell retraining, pain management, bladder control, vocational advice, and nutritional support. In addition, the service provides brief 1-1 support and interventions from Clinical Psychology, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Speech and Language Therapy and Dietetics as clinical indicated.

## **B. Non COVID related physiotherapy developments**

### **1. OAK and ESCAPE models of care from existing recourses**

These group models of care have been initiated within the Health Board to help support individuals with knee pain.

### **2. Paediatrics**

- Development of MTC and NeuroRehab AHP lead role to look at rehabilitation across both services trying to breakdown silos working and roles
- Expansion of the Rheumatology service to 2.0WTE (WHSSC) roles particularly trying to look at chronic pain services
- From existing resources expanding ponseti service to ensure succession planning
- Development from existing resources of orthopaedic clinics within special schools to manage the coordinated care of children with complex Neuro-disability.

### **3. Team Around the Individual (TATI)**

Development of TATI Therapy posts supporting patients with dementia at Locality level - 1 WTE B6 Physio for Cardiff CRT (community resource teams)

**Request 5:** *Please confirm or deny if there have been any discontinued posts and/or services in the last year (April 2021 to end of March 2022). If confirmed, please provide details.*

- 1.0 WTE B5 MSK OP
- 2 WTE B6 posts as outlined above re: CHIST (Care Home Integrated Support Team) funding ending as part of ICF ending

**Request 6:** *Please confirm or deny if there has been any increase or decrease in demand for physiotherapy services in the last year (April 2020 to end if March 2021). If confirmed, please provide details.*

### **Adult Inpatient Service**

2016-2017 – 17,213

2017-2018 – 18,664

2018-2019 – 23,859

2020-2021 – 17,474

2021-2022 – 20,028 (incl SDH/TBH)

### **Adult Outpatients Service**

During 2021-22 there was a steep rise in referrals for Outpatient Physiotherapy. 45% reduction in outpatient referrals linked to COVID pandemic healthcare utilisation, development of a cluster based FCP model and redirecting of physio resource during the pandemic to EU and Trauma clinic reducing the need for onward referral.

Outpatient referrals for 2016-2017 – 30,864

Outpatient referrals for 2017-2018 – 32,650

Outpatient referrals for 2018-2019 – 34,205

Outpatient referrals for 2019-2020 – 30,385

Outpatient referrals for 2020-2021 – 16,116

Outpatient referrals for 2021-2021 – 40,079

### **VCRS**

April 2020-March 2021 – 2217

April 2021-March 2022 – 2568

15% increase in activity

### **Paediatrics**

Increased Special school places across Cardiff and the Vale which with increasing complexity of the children who attend there.

Community Pediatrics Referrals

April 20-21 1,504

April 21-22 1,881

**Request 7:** *Please provide details of the level of budget increase or reduction made by the physiotherapy service in Cardiff & Vale University Health Board in the last financial year (April 2021 to end of March 2022) and what this is as a percentage of the physiotherapy budget.*

### **Adult Physiotherapy Budget:**

There was a savings target budget reduction of £134,318 applied in 2021/22.

There was additional investment:

MTC funding £154,600,

PARIS rollout funding £56,310,

Prehab to Rehab funding £104,126,

LTV funding £46,800,

Lymphoedema funding £11,938,

Winter Plan £55,423,

Disability Wales £24,000,

Year-end non-pay funding £48,099,

Vascular Network funding £8,000

Pay award funding of £332,379.

This is an overall increase of £509,296 which is a 4% increase.

**CRT**

The increase in NW Locality physio specific budget is 8.2% increase in 21/22, with approx. 2.7% increase attributed wage award and the remaining as a result of non-recurrent funding sources.

**Request 8:** *Please provide details of projected % budgetary savings to be made for this financial year (April 2021 to end of March 2022)*

The savings target for April 2021 to March 2022 was 3%.

**Request 9:** *Please provide details of spend on agency/locum staff in the last year April 2021 to end of March 2022.*

The spend on agency/locum staff between April 2020 and March 2021 was £59,017.

The spend on agency/locum staff for CRT between April 2020 and March 2021 was £72,000.

Paediatrics - No locum spend