

<u>Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request Reference Fol/22/591</u> Pain Clinic

Information Requested:

1. How many doctors and consultants are working in pain management in the Cardiff and Vale areas?

Please refer to the following link, available on Cardiff and Vale University Health Board's website,

Meet the Chronic Pain Team - Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (nhs.wales)

2. How many carry our work outside the NHS?

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (the UHB) does not hold this information.

3. How many hours do they work for the NHS a year?

The consultant's work Full-time, 37.5 hours a week. Approx. 1,635 hours per year. Excluding annual leave and statutory bank holidays.

4. How many hours per year do they work in the private sector?

The UHB does not hold this information.

5. Why have NHS pain management clinics been cancelled, or why are they not operating 5 days a week or more?

The UHB can confirm that they haven't cancelled any clinics, the UHB only cancel if a consultant is sick and occasionally due to leave commitments. The UHB do attempt to secure additional sessions when possible.

Unfortunately, the UHB have set days and sessions allocated to the pain service by the outpatient management team, the team can bid for additional clinic spaces and this is done using a 6-4-2 process to ensure a fair divide between specialities.

This however, means the team does not have the opportunity to run clinics every day of the working week. Consultant job plans include sessions outside of pain clinics and treatment lists. Most of our consultants in pain have a dual job plan with anaesthetics. Most split their working week between the pain service and anaesthetic commitments.

6. Are during these cancellation or non-operation days, doctors and/ or consultants that work in the NHS working in private practice?

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (the UHB) does not hold this information. Under Section 16 of the FOIA, which provides us with the duty to advise and assist, the UHB can inform you that Consultants have a contractual commitment to work a specific number of hours per week depending on whether they are fulltime or part-time, this would not necessarily mean they work Monday to





Friday as they would also have on-call commitments and weekend working in terms of their anaesthetic sessions. If sessions are cancelled they are redirected to other duties within the NHS. The UHB cannot comment on what staff do outside of their NHS contractual obligations.

