

Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request Reference FoI/23/325

Children and Young people with S/PLMD

Information Requested:

The request relates to children and young people that have Severe or Profound and Multiple Learning Disabilities (S/PMLD) and services provided by Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) within your health board area.

Information Requested

For the years 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022:

1. Number of children / young people with S/PMLD referred to your service (CAMHS)
2. Of those referred, how many were offered an appointment with a mental health practitioner?
3. Of those referred, how many were diagnosed with clinical depression?
4. Of those diagnosed, how many were treated with medication to alleviate their symptoms?
5. Of those diagnosed, how many were referred for interventions (e.g., talking therapies / counselling)?

For this group intervention may take the form of advice to family and schools rather than direct therapy or a positive behavioural support plan.

6. Of those referred, how many were referred by person with parental responsibility, school, GP?
7. What is the average waiting time from referral to initial assessment?
8. What specific assessment tools are used by practitioners to assess the mental health needs of children and young people with S/PMLD?

Information received:

In completing a search for the information requested, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (the UHB) has confirmed that this information is not centrally recorded or collated. To retrieve the information requested would require a manual search through individual records and the UHB considers that this would exceed the limit set within regulations for responding to a request. The UHB has therefore relied upon the Section 12 exemption ('Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit') of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is refusing your request.

The UHB has estimated that to complete the work needed to respond to this request would exceed the time limit as set within regulations to respond to a Freedom of Information Act request. Under the Act there is an allowance of two and a half days, or 18 hours, to comply with a request and the cost limit set within the fees' regulations for this amount of work (18 hours) is £450 for the UHB. The fees regulations specify that the cost of complying with a request must be calculated at the rate of £25 per hour.