

Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request Reference FoI/23/463
Community Disability Equipment

Information Requested:

Under the Freedom of Information Act (2000), I would be grateful if you could provide information to us on all the geographical areas that you cover, for the following two periods:

- 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022
 - 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023
1. The value* of community disability equipment** provided by your organisation (we require information from each organisation separately, if you wish to provide joint spending figures – please let us know) to disabled and terminally ill children (as defined by the 2010 Equality Act please see *** below) in your area.
 2. The numbers of individual pieces of equipment supplied to disabled and terminally ill children in your area.

* Value to include both recycled equipment (if relevant) provided to specific children through services such as Community Equipment Stores and equipment purchased new for specific children.

**The term community equipment includes such items as wheelchairs, buggies, specialist beds, standing frames, hoists, car seats and specialist seating. We do not include structural adaptations, consumables such as nasal gastric tubing and incontinence supplies, IT equipment or surgical aids.

*** As defined by the 2010 Equality Act. Children up to their 18th birthday who have 'a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term negative effect on their ability to do normal/daily activities'.

Response Details:

In response to questions 1 and 2:

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.