

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request Reference FoI/24/004
Pathway of Care Delays

Information Requested:

- **The median time period for the delay experienced by patients** ready for discharge each month from April 2023 to December 2023 or latest month available, with the delay defined as a patient occupying an NHS hospital bed, who is 'clinically optimised' ready to return home or move on to the next stage of care, who experienced a delay in their transfer of more than 48 hours beyond the point they were clinically optimised.
- **The longest time period** for a delay experienced by a patient ready for discharge, each month from April 2023 to December 2023 or latest month available.
- If available, **the reason for the delay** experienced by the patient with the longest delayed discharge.

Response Details:

The below table represents the median time period for the delay experienced by patients ready for discharge each month from April 2023 to December 2023.

Census Date	Median Length of Delay (days)
19 April 2023	49
17 May 2023	46
21 June 2023	43
19 July 2023	42.5
16 August 2023	45
20 September 2023	40
19 October 2023	35
15 November 2023	32
20 December 2023	35

The below table represents the longest time period for a delay experienced by a patient ready for discharge each month from April 2023 to December 2023.

Following a validation exercise for this request, the numbers released will not match those nationally submitted by Cardiff and Vale University Health Board.

Census Date	Maximum Length of Delay (days)
19 April 2023	465
17 May 2023	472
21 June 2023	507
19 July 2023	535
16 August 2023	566
20 September 2023	601
19 October 2023	629
15 November 2023	654
20 December 2023	693

The cited reasons, in no particular order, for delay are as follows:

- Mental Capacity/Court of Protection delays
- Safeguarding issues impacting discharge arrangements
- Court of Protection delays