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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University
Health Board

Cadeirydd/Chair: **Emma Woollett**
Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive: **Mark Hackett**

gofalu am ein gilydd, cydweithio, gwella bob amser
caring for each other, working together, always improving

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg ac yn y Saesneg. We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

Dyddiad/Date: 19th July 2021
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 21-F-042

☎ 01639 648363

✉ FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk

[REDACTED]

Corporate Services
Headquarters
1 Talbot Gateway
Baglan
Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

[REDACTED]

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act Request acknowledged by ourselves on 24th June 2021. Your request sought information relating to staff assaults.

Please note that from 1st April 2019 responsibility for providing healthcare services for people in the Bridgend County Borough Council area transferred from Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board to Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board. In light of this change to ABMU's responsibilities, the organisation's name has changed to Swansea Bay University Health Board.

However as this response asks for data prior to 1st April 2019, we have provided the information that ABMU Health Board held which will include Bridgend data. Please note that Swansea Bay Health Board provides both Forensic Mental Health and Learning Disability Services unlike other Health Boards and this must be taken into consideration when comparing figures with other Health Boards in Wales.

1. The total number of physical assaults on staff recorded in 2018/19, 2019/20, and 2020/21 (financial years from April to March)

You clarified on 24th June 2021 that you are looking for information on patient/visitor actual assaults on staff members.

2018/19 - 724

2019/20 - 585

2020/21 - 490

2. The total number of physical assaults on staff recorded that involved medical factors in 2018/19, 2019/20, and 2020/21



Pencadlys BIP Bae Abertawe, Un Porthfa Talbot, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR / Swansea Bay UHB Headquarters, One Talbot Gateway, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Bae Abertawe yw enw gweithredu Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University Health Board is the operational name of Swansea Bay University Local Health Board

You clarified on 24th June 2021 that by “involved medical factors” you are referring to the number of physical assaults where the perpetrator did not know what they were doing, or did not know what they were doing was wrong due to medical illness, mental ill health, severe learning disability or treatment administered, if noted.

I can confirm that this information is not captured on our incident reporting system. To obtain this information would involve a manual trawl and cross referencing of records which we have estimated would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI Act as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOI Act and The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulation 2004 provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

3. The total number of times physical injury to staff was caused in 2018/19, 2019/20, and 2020/21

Please note that this includes all grades of injury from minor to severe.

2018/19 - 108
2019/20 - 269
2020/21 - 188

4. The total number of times restraint was used following a physical assault on staff in 2018/19, 2019/20, and 2020/21

Please note that this information relates to all situations where restraint was used including aggression being displayed or to protect the patient (or others)

2018/19 - 84
2019/20 - 42
2020/21 - 33

5. The total number of times was seclusion used following a physical assault on staff in 2018/19, 2019/20, and 2020/21

2018/19 - 22
2019/20 - 6
2020/21 - 33

6. Total number of criminal sanctions applied in relation to physical assaults on staff in 2018/19, 2019/20, and 2020/21

I can confirm that Swansea Bay Health Board does not hold this information.

7. Total number of civil and administrative sanctions applied in relation to physical assaults on staff in 2018/19, 2019/20, and 2020/21

Please note that this information relates to all situations including anti-social behaviour where ASBOs were issued and data is only available from January 2020 onwards.

2019/20 – 29



8. The total number of times intended police action in relation to physical assaults on staff was recorded as charge in 2018/19, 2019/20, and 2020/21

I can confirm that Swansea Bay Health Board does not hold this information.

9. The total number of times intended police action in relation to physical assaults on staff was recorded as verbal warning in 2018/19, 2019/20, and 2020/21

I can confirm that Swansea Bay Health Board does not hold this information.

10. The total number of times intended police action in relation to physical assaults on staff was recorded as no action in 2018/19, 2019/20, and 2020/21

I can confirm that Swansea Bay Health Board does not hold this information.

11. The total number of times it was recorded that the victim did not want police to pursue the matter in relation to physical assaults on staff in 2018/19, 2019/20, and 2020/21

I can confirm that Swansea Bay Health Board does not hold this information.

12. Total number of staff reported by the Health Board at March 31, 2019, March 31, 2020 and at March 31, 2021.

You clarified on 24th June 2021 that you are looking for the total number of staff (headcount) employed by the Health Board on the specified dates.

Please note that this information excludes Locum, Bank and Honorary staff.

| 31 Mar 19 Headcount | 31 Mar 20 Headcount | 31 Mar 21 Headcount |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 16,173 | 12,987 | 13,490 |

I hope this information is helpful. If you require anything further please contact us at FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk.

Under the terms of the Health Board's Freedom of Information policy, individuals seeking access to recorded information held by the Health Board are entitled to request internal review of the handling of their requests. If you would like to complain about the Health Board's handling of your request please contact me directly at the address below or register your complaint via FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk.

If after Internal Review you remain dissatisfied you are also entitled to refer the matter to the information commissioner at the Information Commissioner's Office



(Wales), 2nd Floor, Churchill House, Churchill Way, Cardiff, CF10 2HH. Telephone Number: 029 2067 8400.

Yours sincerely



Pam Wenger
Director of Corporate Governance

