FOI 23-E-016 PHYSIOTHERAPY SERVICES

Request 1:

Please confirm how many whole time equivalent (WTE) physiotherapists, technicians and assistants, by Agenda for Change (AfC) band, were employed by Swansea Bay University Health Board (children & young people's services and adult services) on the 31st of March 2023.

This should include any generic assistant or technical instructor posts that support physiotherapy service provision. Also, please note that physiotherapy staff work in a range of clinical settings. The answer to this request must also capture physiotherapy staff not directly line-managed by the head of physiotherapy services e.g. occupational health, community resource teams (CRTs).

Registered

Pay Grade	FTE
Band 5	28.30
Band 6	82.59
Band 7	82.35
Band 8 - Range A	22.88
Band 8 - Range B	5
Band 8 - Range C	1
*Band 8- Range D	2
Grand Total	224.12

Non-registered

Pay Grade	FTE
Band 2	1.51
Band 3	37.3
Band 4	42.93
Grand Total	81.74

X2 Physiotherapists in non-physio specific roles

X1 Physiotherapist in an AHP consultant role

*1x National regional role and 1x Director role

Request 2:

Please confirm how many whole time equivalent (WTE) physiotherapist, technician and assistant vacancies were held in Swansea Bay University Health Board as of 31st of March 2023. The answer should identify the number of registered physiotherapists and the number of unregistered support staff as separate figures. Do not include admin and clerical.

The service has not held back any vacancies during 22/23.

The below posts were at various stages of recruitment process on 31st March e.g. out to advert.

Post Vacancy	FTE
Physiotherapist	25
Support Staff	10.4

	Grand Total 35.4		
Request 3:	Please confirm or deny if Swansea Bay University Health Board has had any periods of time within the last 12 months to the 31 st of March 2023 where recruitment to posts has been delayed? If confirmed, please provide reasons (short narrative) for the delay.		
	I can confirm there have been periods within the last 12 months to the 31st March 2023 where recruitment to posts has been delayed.		
	These delays have been for a variety of reasons i.e capacity, approval delays, non-response from candidates to email requests etc.		
Request 4:	Please confirm or deny whether there have been any physiotherapy service developments in Swansea Bay University Health Board during the last financial year (April 2022 to end of March 2023). If confirmed:		
	a. Please provide details of the developments.		
	b. Please confirm or deny whether these were supported by additional resources.		
	I can confirm there have been Physiotherapy service developments in FY 2022/23. These include;		
	- Expansion of Education and Lifestyle Programme – additional funding registered and non-registered staff		
	- Implementation of 7 day services across medical and orthopedic physiotherapy services- registered and non-registered staff		
	- Development of Rehabilitation service- OA joints- additional funding registered, non-registered and clinical leadership posts		
	- 0.1 MSK service delivered in HMP Swansea – within core funding		
	- 0.8 Paeds/ Learning disabilities joint post to support young adults- reconfiguration of vacant posts- service redesign		
	 1.0 WTE temporary Band 7 PT to support pilot community outreach rapid response with WAST – no additional funding project now ceased but planning discussions to consider commissioning 		
	 Development of 7 day services supporting patient care and flow in trauma and medical wards at Morriston General Hospital – additional funding 		
Request 5:	Please confirm or deny if there have been any discontinued posts and/or services in the last year (April 2022 to end of March 2023). If confirmed, please provide details.		
	- Paediatric respiratory outreach service 1WTE- funded from temporary winter pressures- substantive funding not secured		
Request 6:	Please confirm or deny if there has been any increase or decrease in demand for physiotherapy services in the last year (April 2022 to en if March 2023). If confirmed, please provide details.		

There has been an increase in demands in the following areas;

Oncology

Increase in demand for physiotherapy within the Specialist Palliative Care service in patient referrals increased by 54% and community referrals by 102 % in comparison to 2021-22.

Paediatrics

Additional Learning Needs increase demand related to new legislation.

Paediatric orthopaedics - 7 day working

Acute Medical Unit / from door areas

Community Reablement Team

First Contact Practitioners

Major trauma - orthopaedic, spinal, plastic surgery

Regional sarcoma surgery

We have not identified any decrease in demand.

Request 7:

Please provide details of the level of budget increase or reduction made by the physiotherapy service in Swansea Bay University Health Board in the last financial year (April 2022 to end of March 2023) and what this is as a percentage of the physiotherapy budget. You clarified on 16th June 2023 that you are asking for the comparison of FY 2022/23 against 2021/22.

There was a total budget increase of £785k in 2022/23 compared to 2021/22. This is after the application of £400k savings (see below q8). This is a 6.33% increase of the budget (after the savings have been applied). This is due to service expansion, with some newly staffed service areas.

Request 8:

Please provide details of projected % budgetary savings to be made for this financial year (April 2022 to end of March 2023).

You clarified on 16th June 2023 that you are asking for the savings made in 2022/23 against the budget that was set.

Savings of £400,000 were achieved in 2022/23, which is 2.94% of the initial budget.

Request 9:	Please provide details of spend on agency/locum staff in the last year April 2022 to end of March 2023.
	Core Agency Spend = £25,234. Agency was utilised to backfill vacant posts to assist with increased waiting list pressures and breaching position