

Freedom of Information Request	FOI 22-476	21 <sup>st</sup> October 2022
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**I write regarding an FOI request about transfers of mental health patients outside of Wales and would be grateful if you could answer the following questions:**

- 1. How many mental health patients were transferred outside of your health board boundaries for treatment between 2017-18 and 2021-22?**

Year	Number
2017/18	<5*
2018/19	<5*
2019/20	7
2020/21	17
2021/22	20

\*Please note that Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 has been applied. The Health Board will not provide the exact numbers due to the low numbers of individuals involved (5 or less). The Health Board believes there is a potential risk of individuals being able to be identified, when considered with other information already available within the public domain, if this was disclosed. Therefore, the data is classed as personal data as defined under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018 and its disclosure would be contrary to the data protection principles and constitute unfair and unlawful processing in regard to Articles 5, 6, and 9 of GDPR. We are therefore withholding this detail under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This exemption is absolute and therefore there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.

- 2. How many mental health patients were transferred to England and Scotland for treatment between 2017-18 and 2021-22?**

A total of 29 patients were transferred to England and Scotland for this period.

- 3. Please detail the places mental health patients were transferred to in England and Scotland between 2017-18 and 2021-22 or the furthest away your board has transferred a patient to;**

The furthest the Health Board has transferred patients in this period was to Scotland.

- 4. The cost of transferring patients outside of Wales between 2017-18 and 2021-22; and**

The Health Board is not able to provide this information. [Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee \(WHSCC\)](#) commission and fund the cost of

these placements, therefore you may wish to contact them direct via the link provided.

**5. The reasons why patients were transferred out of Wales.**

Unable to source appropriate in patient care in Wales.