

4 March 2024

Dear

ATISN 20180 – Mental Health Budget

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 06 February 2024. You have requested the following:

- 1. Information as to the total budget allocated to Mental Health in relation to the overall health budget for Wales.*
- 2. What is the expenditure from the Mental Health budget on Secondary Care, Community services and the Private Sector.*

Our Response

- 1 We have interpreted your question to refer to the budgets in NHS Wales.

Welsh Government cannot accurately give the total budget allocated to Mental Health services in NHS Wales, as most of the funding allocated is done so via the NHS Discretionary allocation, which Health Boards then use to determine the appropriate level of budget required for the needs of their population.

You will need to submit a request to all NHS Wales organisations for this information. Contact details can be found [Here](#)

However, we do have a ring-fenced amount within the overall NHS allocation that relates to mental health services. This puts in place a floor (or lower limit) below which Health Boards cannot drop in relation to spending on mental health services. For 23-24, the total Mental Health ring fenced allocation was £773.639m this was part of the original overall allocation to the NHS of £7,963.323m, which was confirmed in their main allocation letter issued in December 2022.

2. Welsh Government does not hold this information. Although we do hold costs for secondary healthcare in our accounts, they are not sub-analysed over categories such as mental health as this is not a financial accounting reporting requirement.

You may wish to contact health boards directly for more information relating to mental health expenditure on secondary care community services.

Welsh Government does not hold budgetary information relating to the private health care sector.

Further information relating to NHS Wales spending and the NHS Wales Programme Budget returns are available on [StatsWales](#) by using the following link: [NHS expenditure by budget category and year \(gov.wales\)](#)

Next steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ

or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely,