



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Abertawe Bro Morgannwg
University Health Board

Dyddiad/Date: 18th July 2012

(01639) 683328
FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk
Ref: 12-F-022

Sarah McCulloch

Corporate Administration
ABM Headquarters
1 Talbot Gateway
Baglan
Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

Dear Ms McCulloch,

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act Request acknowledged by ourselves on 25th June 2012. Your request sought information relating to the following:

- 1. How many adults you have with a diagnosis of autistic spectrum disorder (any, although if there are separate statistics for Asperger's, HFA, LFA, they would be appreciated) in your area;**

This information is not held centrally within our patient systems. Within the services/directorates involved, individuals with severe challenging behaviour will include adults who have a diagnosis of ASD and there will also be adults referred for other reasons who may present with behaviour indicative of ASD and who may or may not have a diagnosis.

- 2. How many children;**

This information is not held centrally within our patient systems.

- 3. What diagnostic services are available to a) adults and b) children;**

a) Diagnostic services to adults are available through various sources, these include learning disability, mental health and forensic services. In order to respond to the recommendations in the All Wales strategy for adults with ASD (2010) ABMU Health Board are in the process of developing a tertiary diagnostic team for adults who cannot access diagnosis via current services or who present with complex areas of differential diagnosis and co-morbidity.

b) For children and young people; there are diagnostic teams in each of the three areas within ABMU Health Board, varying in format, in order to reflect local multi disciplinary working arrangements. (The arrangements in Bridgend differ to those in place within other parts of the Health Board. However, the principles of multi agency working are the same)

4. What agencies or teams you have that work with autistic people, provide support/services, strategise, etc.

Swansea:

Multi Agency Team for children aged 5 and under
(Consultant Community Paediatricians, Educational Psychologist, and a highly specialised Speech and Language Therapist)

Swansea:

Multi Agency Team for children aged 5+
(Consultant Community Paediatricians, Consultant Psychiatrists and their teams, Educational Psychologist and a highly specialised Speech and Language Therapist)

Neath Port Talbot:

Multi Agency Team for children aged 5 and under
(Consultant Community Paediatricians, Educational Psychologist, Specialist Teacher, Autism Family Support Worker, speech therapists, occupational therapist)

Neath Port Talbot:

Multi Agency Team for children aged 5+
(CAMHS team plus Specialist teacher and Highly Specialist Speech Therapist.)

Bridgend

Multi Agency Panel for children
(Consultant Community Paediatrician, Educational Psychologist, CAMHS team and specialised Speech and Language Therapist)

We do not have a designated ASD service for adults but are seeking to develop practice that can be sustained and supported within current services.

Strategically the Health Board has representatives who contribute to the national diagnostic ASD steering group and whose role it is to embed consistent practice and standards in local Health Boards. We also link in to local ASD stakeholder groups who are responsible for developing services for children and adults with ASD. These groups are led by Local Authority, who manage the funding, and have representation from a wide range of statutory and third sector organisations as well as parents and individuals with ASD.

Diagnosis. This is available through local Community Learning Disability teams, Community Paediatric teams, Community Mental Health teams (CHMT) or through forensic services. The Health Board is also in the process of setting up a collaborative tertiary team (as above) which will include pre and post counseling for adults.

Support/Services for adults. Multi-disciplinary support is available through local Community Learning Disability teams (CLDT), Community Mental Health teams or through forensic services. In some areas adult autism teams have been set up to support adults with Asperger's syndrome in the community. The National Autistic Society also provide various support packages.

For children in Swansea support is offered pre and post diagnosis through Action for Children playgroups, Early bird programmes (post diagnosis), referral to ASD family support worker, Language groups/ SALT input and subsequent follow up with the relevant Community Consultant who liaises closely with Education colleagues.

For children in Neath Port Talbot, support is offered pre and post diagnosis through Action for Children playgroups, Early bird programmes (post diagnosis), referral to ASD family support worker, Specialist teacher, Language groups/ SALT input and follow up where appropriate with the relevant Community Consultant who liaises closely with Education colleagues. Referrals for social support / respite are made to the Child Care Disability team (Social services.)

For children in Bridgend intervention/support is offered through Communication groups (SALT), Early Bird and Early BirdPlus (Early-bird) Team, Behaviour support, coming to terms with diagnosis, counseling (CAMHS), Medical issues (Paediatrics), School provision and liaison (EPS/Community Paediatrics), Support/respite services (Disabled Children's Team)

5. An email address/website for each of these agencies or teams where possible.

Directorate of Learning Disabilities, Glanrhyd Hospital
Directorate of Mental Health services, Tonna Hospital
Forensic Mental Health services, Caswell clinic.

CAMHS are hosted by Cwm Taf Health Board -

<http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/865/home>

There is no dedicated e-mail address for Community Child Health.

General inquiries can be directed to ABM.inquiries@wales.nhs.uk

6. What the typical process should be for an adult in your area first asking their GP for an assessment for autistic spectrum disorder to receiving a diagnosis/support.

If the adult has a learning disability the GP would refer to the local CLDT and would follow the single referral pathway within the team. If a diagnostic service were not available this would be transferred to the tertiary team. Ongoing support and intervention would be provided by the local team if appropriate.

If the adult has mental health needs the GP would refer to the local CMHT and would follow the single referral pathway within the team. If a diagnostic service were not available this would be transferred to the Neurodevelopment clinic or the tertiary team. Ongoing support and intervention would be provided by the local team if appropriate.

If the adult has forensic issues the GP would refer into forensic Mental Health services.

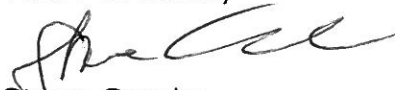
ABMU Health Board are in the process of developing a single point of referral for adults who require a diagnosis of ASD although this would not preclude referral to local teams. Information in relation to this service will be cascaded once established.

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



Steve Combe

Board Secretary