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Gwasanaeth Gwaed Cymru
Welsh Blood Service



Canolfan Ganser Felindre
Velindre Cancer Centre

Pencadlys Ymddiriedolaeth GIG
Prifysgol Felindre
Velindre University NHS Trust Headquarters

2 Cwrt Charnwood
Heol Billingsley
Parc Nantgarw
Caerdydd/Cardiff
CF15 7QZ

Ffôn/Phone : (029) 20196161

<https://velindre.nhs.wales>

Date: 10th July 2023

Ref: CORP 2023-082

Dear *****,

Freedom of Information request: Welsh Infected Blood Support Scheme (CORP 2023-082)

Thank you for your request for the following information which the Trust received on 17th May 2023.

Your Request:

1. *How many applications from new applicants (people who had not applied to any fund previously) were received in 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022?*
2. *How many applications were received from people (A) diagnosed with hepatitis C between January 2015 and December 2019 (B) diagnosed with hepatitis C in 2020 (C) diagnosed with hepatitis C in 2021 (D) diagnosed with hepatitis C in 2022 (E) diagnosed with hepatitis C in 2023?*

The following questions refer to all applications ever received by the Wales Support Scheme:

3. *Please provide a breakdown of how many applications have been received by ethnicity, from applicants diagnosed with either hepatitis C or HIV. What proportion of applications have been approved for each group?*
4. *Please provide a breakdown of how many applications have been received by gender, from applicants diagnosed with either hepatitis C or HIV. What proportion of applications have been approved for each group?*
5. *Please provide a breakdown of how many applications have been received by disability, from applicants diagnosed with either hepatitis C or HIV. What proportion of applications have been approved for each group?*

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6. *Please provide a breakdown of how many applications have been received by age / age group, from applicants diagnosed with either hepatitis C or HIV. What proportion of applications have been approved for each group?*
7. *Please provide a breakdown of how many applications have been received by HCV Genotype. What proportion of applications have been approved for each group?*
8. *Please provide a breakdown of how many applications have been received from people who cleared HCV without treatment. What proportion of applications have been approved for this group? What was the reason for any approvals (if any have been approved)?*
9. *How many Skipton Fund beneficiaries records were held by Russell Cooke Solicitors for purposes related to the four UK blood Support Schemes?*
10. *How many of the beneficiaries records held by Russell Cooke Solicitors were automatically transferred to one of the four UK Blood Support Schemes?*
11. *How many beneficiaries records were not automatically transferred to one of the four UK Blood Support Schemes and now remain in the possession of Russell Cooke Solicitors?*
12. *For what reason/s were any beneficiaries records not transferred automatically from the Skipton Fund to one of the four UK Blood Support Schemes?*
13. *What records are held on the number of rejected applications made to the Skipton Fund, before the creation of the four UK Blood Support Schemes, and are these also held by Russell Cooke Solicitors, and if not, where are they held?*

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The Trust has reviewed your request which is correctly formatted and complies with Section 8 of the Freedom of Information Act.

To comply with the Information Commissioner's Office code of practice on small number reporting, numbers less than 5 are reported as "less than 5".

Please find the Trust's response below:

1. How many applications from new applicants (people who had not applied to any fund previously) were received in 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022?

| Financial Year | Number of applications who had not applied to any fund previously |
|---------------------|---|
| 2017 - 2018 | *Less than 5 |
| 2018 - 2019 | 9 |
| 2019 - 2020 | 8 |
| 2020 - 2021 | *Less than 5 |
| 2021 - 2022 | 5 |
| 2022 - 2023 | 9 |
| 2023 - 2024 to date | 0 |
| Total | 35 |

2. How many applications were received from people (A) diagnosed with hepatitis C between January 2015 and December 2019 (B) diagnosed with hepatitis C in 2020 (C) diagnosed with hepatitis C in 2021 (D) diagnosed with hepatitis C in 2022 (E) diagnosed with hepatitis C in 2023?

| Financial Year | Total Applications received diagnosed with Hep C |
|-----------------|--|
| 2015 – 2019 | 11 |
| 2020 – 2021 | 0 |
| 2021 - 2022 | *Less than 5 |
| 2022 – 2023 | 0 |
| 2023 – May 2023 | 0 |

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The remaining applications were diagnosed outside of the parameters requested.

The following questions refer to all applications ever received by the Wales Support Scheme:

- Please provide a breakdown of how many applications have been received by ethnicity, from applicants diagnosed with either hepatitis C or HIV. What proportion of applications have been approved for each group?

The Trust does not hold this information.

- Please provide a breakdown of how many applications have been received by gender, from applicants diagnosed with either hepatitis C or HIV. What proportion of applications have been approved for each group?

| Financial Year | Total Applications Received | Male | Approved (M) | Proportion | Female | Approved (F) | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------|--------------|--------------|---------|
| 2017/18 | *Less than 5 | *Less than 5 | *Less than 5 | 100.00% | *Less than 5 | *Less than 5 | 100.00% |
| 2018/19 | 11 | *Less than 5 | *Less than 5 | 50.00% | 7 | 5 | 71.43% |
| 2019/20 | 9 | 5 | *Less than 5 | 40.00% | *Less than 5 | *Less than 5 | 50.00% |
| 2020/21 | *Less than 5 | 0 | 0 | 0.00% | *Less than 5 | *Less than 5 | 100.00% |
| 2021/22 | 6 | *Less than 5 | *Less than 5 | 100.00% | *Less than 5 | *Less than 5 | 0.00% |
| 2022/23 | 10 | *Less than 5 | *Less than 5 | 33.33% | 7 | 3 | 42.86% |
| April 2023/24 to May 2023/24 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0 | 0.00% |

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- Please provide a breakdown of how many applications have been received by disability, from applicants diagnosed with either hepatitis C or HIV. What proportion of applications have been approved for each group?

The Trust does not hold this information.

- Please provide a breakdown of how many applications have been received by age / age group, from applicants diagnosed with either hepatitis C or HIV. What proportion of applications have been approved for each group?

| Age Group | Total Received | Total Approved | % Approved |
|-----------|----------------|----------------|------------|
| 0-20 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 21-30 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 31-40 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 41-50 | *Less than 5 | *Less than 5 | 25% |
| 51-60 | 10 | 5 | 50% |
| 60-70 | 13 | 7 | 54% |
| 70+ | 9 | 6 | 67% |

- Please provide a breakdown of how many applications have been received by HCV Genotype. What proportion of applications have been approved for each group?

The Trust does not hold this information.

- Please provide a breakdown of how many applications have been received from people who cleared HCV without treatment. What proportion of applications have been approved for this group? What was the reason for any approvals (if any have been approved)?

Two applications have been received. Neither application was approved.

- How many Skipton Fund beneficiaries records were held by Russell Cooke Solicitors for purposes related to the four UK blood Support Schemes?

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The Trust does not hold the information. This question needs to be answered by Russel-Cooke.

10. How many of the beneficiaries records held by Russell Cooke Solicitors were automatically transferred to one of the four UK Blood Support Schemes?

The Trust does not hold the information. This question needs to be answered by Russell-Cooke.

11. How many beneficiaries records were not automatically transferred to one of the four UK Blood Support Schemes and now remain in the possession of Russell Cooke Solicitors?

The Trust does not hold the information. This question needs to be answered by Russell-Cooke.

12. For what reason/s were any beneficiaries records not transferred automatically from the Skipton Fund to one of the four UK Blood Support Schemes?

The Trust does not hold the information. This question needs to be answered by Russell-Cooke.

13. What records are held on the number of rejected applications made to the Skipton Fund, before the creation of the four UK Blood Support Schemes, and are these also held by Russell Cooke Solicitors, and if not, where are they held?

The Trust does not hold the information. This question needs to be answered by Russell-Cooke.

I trust this answers your request for information, however, should you not be satisfied with the information supplied or the process of supplying it, you have a right to complain and request a review with 40 days of the date of this letter. You should forward your complaint to:-

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Mr Ian Bevan via FOI.VUNHST@wales.nhs.uk
Head of Information Governance
Velindre University NHS Trust
2, Charnwood Court
Heol Billingsley
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Tel / Ffon - 029 20196161

Should you wish to take your complaint further, if you are still unhappy with the decision after review, you can contact the:-

Information Commissioner's Office - Wales
2nd Floor,
Churchill House,
Churchill Way,
Cardiff,
CF10 2HH
Telephone: 0330 414 6421
email: wales@ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

Lauren Fear
Director of Corporate Governance and Chief of Staff
Velindre University NHS Trust
2 Charnwood Court
Heol Billingsley
Parc Nantgarw
Cardiff
CF15 7QZ

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