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Public Health
Wales

Freedom of Information request to Public Health Wales

FOI Reference:	FOI 187
Date request received	22 January 2019
Date information is due to be sent	19 February 2019

Information Requested:

I am part of a protest group protesting for clean and Healthy environment in Gelligaer and Pen y bryn plus Nelson all in Hengoed Wales.

I am trying to get the figures for Cancer cases over the last 15 years .

The residents of these areas have been living with a recycling plants plus a quarry lasting couple of times a month there is heavy traffic delivering the waste and black smoke from the burning of the waste which all causes concerns to the group and residents .

I ask for this information under the freedom of information

Following a Request for clarification:

I requested health data for Oakfield Surgery Ystrad Mynach Gelligaer Surgery plus Nelson Surgery , it was not surprise in to the group there I am supporting that there was a lot of breathing difficulties and asthma and we believe this is to do with the recycling plant and the quarry quarry blasting from Bryn Group Site .

What we looking for is data on these same Surgeries on all Cancers as we are very concerned of the amount Cancer in the area .

Information provided for the answer:

Please find below a response to your recent FOI request. Unfortunately, we don't hold the exact data that you have requested, so we have provided the information that we do hold as close as possible to the information you require. You may find further information within documents and web pages that have already been published, so we have provided links to these within this response.

In terms of the request for the figures for cancer cases, we have provided the following information by geographical area, as close to your request as possible.

For all malignant cancers excluding non-melanoma skin cancer, for the period 2011-2015, for persons:

(For information – Middle super output area (MSOA) is the geographical area (Census 2011 based)).

Caerphilly 012 – MSOA W02000301, including Hengoed:

European age standardised rate (EASR) is 687.3 per 100,000 population

Rank 315 of 410 (where 1 is lowest EASR)

226 cases of all malignant cancers excluding non-melanoma skin cancer diagnosed for this period

Caerphilly 013 – MSOA W02000302, including Nelson:

European age standardised rate (EASR) is 663.1 per 100,000 population

Rank 252 of 410 (where 1 is lowest EASR)

313 cases of all malignant cancers excluding non-melanoma skin cancer diagnosed in the this period

Caerphilly 008 – MSOA W02000297, including Gelligaer:

European age standardised rate (EASR) is 653.6 per 100,000 population

Rank 229 of 410 (where 1 is lowest EASR)

216 cases of all malignant cancers excluding non-melanoma skin cancer diagnosed in the this period

Wales:

European age standardised rate (EASR) is 637.8 per 100,000 population

95570 cases of all malignant cancers excluding non-melanoma skin cancer diagnosed

What are MSOAs?

When presenting health information at the sub local authority level we normally use statistical geographies that have been designed to be consistent in terms of population; to be socially consistent, which is useful if we

want to understand the possible impact of disadvantage; and stable, i.e. not subject to constant change. These are called super output areas. Middle super output areas (MSOAs) cover populations of around 7,500 persons.

What is a European age standardised rate?

A European age standardised rate is a standard way of reporting health data. The rate shown here is the number of new cancer case per 100,000 people per year, which has been adjusted. The adjustment takes account of the age-structure. This is to make comparisons between populations more meaningful, where the age structures of those populations are different.

What else should I know:

The Welsh Cancer Intelligence & Surveillance Unit (WCISU) is the National Cancer Registry for Wales and its primary role is to record, store and report on all incidence of cancer for the resident population of Wales. We routinely publish cancer incidence figures from 2001 onwards by cancer type, gender and geographical area of Wales. Please see our latest publication:

<http://www.wcisuwales.nhs.uk/cancer-incidence-in-wales>

We routinely report on the 22 local authorities and the seven health boards in Wales.

However, we do not usually analyse data at a lower geographical level (including MSA). This is because smaller numbers of cancers at this level mean numbers can be subject to greater random variation, making rates more difficult to interpret.

We do however, supply our incidence counts to NHS Wales Informatics Services to create the health maps wales cancer pages by MSA:

www.healthmapswales.wales.nhs.uk

The screen shot below is from the Health Maps Wales page (link provided above) and includes the 3-year rolling rate screen for these three MSAs.



Cancer will affect about one in three people in their life time.

Further information about cancer incidence data can be found in our recent update and our more comprehensive report from 2018.

Is cancer preventable, and what causes it?

Cancer is much more common in older people. Two-thirds of cancer cases in Wales occurred in the over 65 year-olds in 2015. And the highest cancer rates are seen in older age-groups, especially men.

Although the risk of most types of cancer increases with ageing - such as the most common cancers (breast, prostate, lung and bowel) - some rarer types of cancer are more common in younger people and children, for example some types of lymphoma and bone tumours.

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Estimates suggest that in the UK around 4 in 10 of the cancer incidence could be preventable.

The main preventable risk factors are tobacco; obesity; lack of fruit and vegetables; alcohol; occupational risks such as asbestos; UV radiation from the sun (both long-term exposure and sunburn) and sunbeds; processed and red meat; and certain infections, such as HPV. The past trends – especially by gender and socioeconomic

disadvantage - in many of these factors are major contributors to the pattern of cancer we see in the population of Wales today.

We still know very little about the causes or risks for some cancers, such as prostate cancer, for example. The trends in prostate cancer incidence are in part to do with the changes in the extent of Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) testing in health care.

How can I find out more?

Both Public Health Wales' Environmental Health Protection Team and the local Gwent Public Health Team have engaged with the Bryn Liaison Group (and the subsequent Bryn Discussion Group) since established in 2009. If you require, they can help place these data in the context of discussions around this particular site. If you wish to discuss the data further, you are welcome to contact these teams on:

Health Protection Division

Tel: 0300 00 300 32 or email: publichealth.environment@wales.nhs.uk

Gwent Public Health Team

Tel: 01495 241218 or email: Admin_ABGPHT@wales.nhs.uk

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of the decision, you should write to the Corporate Complaints Manager, Public Health Wales NHS Trust, 3, Number 2, Capital Quarter, Tyndall Street, Cardiff, CF10 4BZ.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint or review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Trust. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner for Wales

2nd Floor
Churchill House
Churchill Way
Cardiff
CF10 2HH

Telephone: 029 2067 8400

Email: wales@ico.org.uk

