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Iechyd Cyhoeddus
Cymru
Public Health
Wales

Freedom of Information request to Public Health Wales

FOI Reference:

FOI 230

Date request received

28/06/2019

Date information is due to be sent

26/07/2019

Information requested:

I'm contacting you to inquire what information you currently hold on two topics.

The first being the sexual health of people in Wales. We're working on a programme looking at attitudes towards sexual health therefore I would like to know how much does it cost the Welsh NHS to treat STI's and STD's. And also, how many cases of STI's and STD's does the Welsh NHS treat every year.

The second being a programme looking at cocaine consumption in Wales. I would be interested in finding out more about the number of deaths regarding cocaine consumption over the years and hospital admissions as a result of mental health problems arising from cocaine use.

Information provided for the answer:

Thank you for your email received 28 June 2019. Please find information below for the response:

Sexual Health in Wales

Public Health Wales publishes quarterly and annual reports on HIV and STI trends in Wales. These reports present observed trends on the rates of sexually transmitted infections and other infections diagnosed in Integrated Sexual Health clinics in Wales. The latest reports can be found here:

<http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/888/page/88723>

In terms of the costs associated with treating STIs in Wales, this is not information that we have to hand. It could probably be calculated, but it is not a straightforward calculation as the cost of poor sexual health is associated with more than simply treating STIs – there is the issue of the impact of undiagnosed and therefore untreated STIs, for example, infertility, ongoing transmission of infection, late diagnosis of

HIV etc. There is also the cost of not using effective contraception at the right time, for example, unintended pregnancy leading to abortions and/or children in care.

For some wider context, the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control recently published the results from its Burden of Communicable Diseases in Europe study (<https://www.eurosurveillance.org/content/10.2807/1560-7917.ES.2018.23.16.17-00454>), in which HIV and hepatitis B ranked highly, but chlamydia also caused a significant burden due to long term effects.

Cocaine consumption in Wales

The Annual Profile for Substance Misuse provides a summary of routinely reported substance misuse related data currently available for Wales. Evidence is drawn from a number of data sources including NHS Wales Informatics Service, the Harm Reduction Database (HRD) Wales, the Welsh National Database for Substance Misuse (WNDSM), Office for National Statistics (ONS), Local Authority Education services and Home Office data. The latest report is available online here:

[Annual Report for Substance Misuse](#)

The following tables should answer the specific parts of your query:

1. The number of deaths involving cocaine consumption over the years:

Drug misuse deaths in Wales involving cocaine	
Year	Number of deaths
2008	5
2009	6
2010	3
2011	4
2012	6
2013	7
2014	7
2015	10
2016	15
2017	23
Source: Office for National Statistics	

2. Psychiatric hospital admissions in Wales by year with any mention of cocaine:

Year	Admissions
2008/09	20
2009/10	11
2010/11	21
2011/12	13
2012/13	13
2013/14	9
2014/15	14
2015/16	12

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