

Questions to Board 25 March 2026

Question 3:

Have people with lived experience been involved in any consultation about this policy?

PTHB response

The health board has a programme of continuous engagement in place which has included 13 locality events across Powys as well as outreach to local community

organisations to gather views and insights to inform the development of our annual plan.

We estimate that we have heard around 1000 voices during our engagement activities in autumn and winter 2025/26.

What evidence, data, or impact assessments support the decision to set a 104-week threshold, particularly in relation to patient harm, deterioration, and long-term outcomes?

The decision of the Board in March 2025 was informed by detailed integrated impact assessment. More information about the decision of the Board in March 2025 is

available from our website at <https://pthb.nhs.wales/powys-elective> including in our detailed FAQs. We would be very grateful to receive the survey results from BLIP.

Blip further questions on PTHB response

You state that around **1,000 voices were heard during engagement events**.

How many of these individuals were specifically consulted about the **104-week waiting time policy**?

Were patients informed during these engagement events that **Powys residents could wait twice as long as English patients for surgery in the same hospitals**?

Will the Health Board publish the **feedback data or reports** from those engagement sessions?

Evidence Behind the 104-Week Threshold

The Board decision was informed by an **Integrated Impact Assessment**.

Can the Health Board publish the **full assessment**, including evidence relating to:

- patient harm
- deterioration while waiting
- emergency admissions
- **long-term outcomes?**

What **clinical evidence** supports the view that waiting up to **104 weeks for surgery** does not significantly increase patient harm?

Did the assessment include **input from clinicians treating Powys patients in English hospitals?**

Response:

We continue to use a wide range of data including feedback from public engagement, complaints & concerns, patient safety incidents, patient reported outcome measures, feedback from Llais the statutory Citizen Voice Body for Health and Care in Wales, and other monitoring to support the continued review of the quality and performance of the services we provide and commission.

The health board is currently reviewing the Integrated Impact Assessment in the context of discussions with Welsh Government to finalise and approve our Annual Plan 2026/27 and will be available shortly from our website at <https://pthb.nhs.wales/powys-elective>.