



GIG  
CYMRU  
NHS  
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd  
Addysgu Powys  
Powys Teaching  
Health Board

Information Governance Team  
Monnow Ward  
Bronllys Hospital  
Bronllys  
Brecon  
Powys LD3 0LY  
Email: Powys.FOI@wales.nhs.uk  
Tel: 01686 252140/01874 442071

Our ref: IG/FOI/23.R.030

13 February 2023

Sent via email to: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED],

## Request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

I write further to your request for information which was received on 30 January 2023, to confirm, in accordance with S.1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, that Powys Teaching Health Board (PTHB) does hold the information that you require.

For ease of reference your request is set out below and our response follows:

### Your Freedom of Information (FOI) Request and Powys Response (in bold):

Q1. Does the Board have a formal written policy for digital rectal examination, digital rectal stimulation and the digital removal of faeces in spinal cord injured and other patients with neurogenic bowel dysfunction?

- (a) **Yes**
- (b) No

Q2. Is your policy based on the policy template that the Spinal Injuries Association circulated to your Board in August 2018?

- (a) **Yes**
- (b) No
- (c) No bowel assessment and management policy in place

Q3. If admitted to the Board, will a person with neurogenic bowel dysfunction receive the following bowel care intervention – Digital removal of faeces?

- (a) **Yes**
- (b) No

Q4. If admitted to the Board, will a person with neurogenic bowel dysfunction receive the following bowel care intervention – Digital rectal stimulation?

- (a) **Yes**

Pencadlys  
Tŷ Glasbury, Ysbyty Bronllys,  
Aberhonddu, Powys LD3 0LU  
Ffôn: 01874 711661



Headquarters  
Glasbury House, Bronllys Hospital  
Brecon, Powys LD3 0LU  
Tel: 01874 711661



(b) No

Q5. If admitted to the Board, will a person with neurogenic bowel dysfunction receive the following bowel care intervention – Trans anal irrigation?

(a) **Yes**

(b) No

Q6. Do you have ward-based staff skilled in supporting patients with neurogenic bowel care interventions, including the digital removal of faeces?

(a) **Yes**

(b) No

Q7. Are staff available seven days a week to undertake these bowel care interventions?

(a) **Yes**

(b) No

Q8. Does the Board have a policy that allows for the personal care assistants/carers of spinal cord injured patients to assist with the bowel care element of the patient's care?

(a) Yes

(b) No

**It is not specifically stated, but it would be encouraged and supported by the continence service specialist nurse team.**

**This aspect of SCI care management will be added to the next policy review.**

Q9. Does the Board have an appropriate clinical lead in place (such as a Continence Manager) to manage the overall delivery of bowel care interventions to patients?

(a) **Yes**

(b) No

Q10. What are the contact details for this clinical lead (i.e. name, job title, telephone number and email address)?

**Justine Phillips, Continence Service Manager/ Clinical Nurse Specialist**

**01686 414218**

**justine.phillips@wales.nhs.uk**

Should you need any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at the address below.

If you are dissatisfied, with the way your request has been dealt with by PTHB, you have the right to request a review in which case you should write to:

Chief Executive

Powys Teaching Health Board Headquarters

Glasbury House

Bronllys Hospital

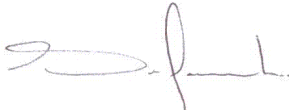
Bronllys  
Brecon  
Powys LD3 0LY

If you are still dissatisfied at the end of the review, you may complain to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at the following address:

Information Commissioner's Office - Wales  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor,  
Churchill House,  
Churchill Way,  
Cardiff, CF10 2HH  
Tel: 029 2067 8400 Fax 029 2067 8399  
[www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk) [twitter.com/iconews](https://twitter.com/iconews)

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yng Nghymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb y fath ohebiaeth yng Nghymraeg ac ni fydd hyn yn arwain at oedi. We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. We will reply to such correspondence in Welsh and this will not lead to a delay.

Yours sincerely



**David Farnsworth**  
**Assistant Director: Community Services Group**

**On behalf of Hayley Thomas**  
**Deputy CEO and Director of Primary Care, Community & Mental Health Services**