



Bwrdd Iechyd
Addysgu Powys
Powys Teaching
Health Board

Information Governance Team
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Our ref: IG/FOI/23.R.358

21 November 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 16 October 2023, to confirm, in accordance with S.1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, that Powys Teaching Health Board (PTHB) partly holds 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:

Please see attached a Freedom of Information request for information on the provision of mental health care and services immediately before and during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Please also see attached a spreadsheet which may assist you, to complete with the information you hold.

Freedom of Information request – Levels of mental health service provision during the Covid-19 pandemic

The purpose of this request is to provide Mind, the mental health charity, with information on the provision of mental health care and services immediately before and during the Covid-19 pandemic under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

If you have any questions relating to this request, require clarification or if the request is deemed too wide or unclear, I would be grateful if you could contact me in advance of issuing a formal response.

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



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

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth Gymraeg
Bwrdd Iechyd Addysgu Powys yw enw gweithredd Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol
Addysgu Powys



We welcome correspondence in Welsh
Powys Teaching Health Board is the operational name of
Powys Teaching Local Health Board

Between March 2020 and May 2022, the UK and Welsh government implemented national and regional restrictions in an attempt to slow the spread of Covid-19. The Welsh government took a more gradual approach to easing the Covid restrictions than other nations in the UK.

Please see attached a spreadsheet, for you to complete with the information that you hold. Mind would like to request the following information in relation to the above:

Mental health service contacts:

1) Contacts by consultation medium for adults

a) Please provide the total number of contacts you have had with adults accessing help for their mental health, in the community and in A &E, broken down by the consultation medium. Please provide a monthly breakdown between November 2020 and June 2022. Kindly complete the spreadsheet attached, on the tab called "contacts by medium for adults"

2) Contacts by consultation medium for children (under 18)

a) Please provide the total number of contacts you have had with children accessing help for their mental health in the community and in A &E broken down by consultation medium. Please provide a monthly breakdown between November 2020 and June 2022. Kindly complete the spreadsheet attached, on the tab called "contacts by medium for children".

3) IAPT contacts by consultation medium for adults

a) Please provide the number of contacts you have had with adults accessing Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) services broken down by consultation medium. Please provide a monthly breakdown between November 2020 and June 2022. Kindly complete the spreadsheet attached, on the tab called "IAPT by medium for adults".

4) IAPT contacts by consultation medium for children (under 18)

a) Please provide the number of contacts you have had with children (aged under 18) accessing Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) services broken down by consultation medium. Please provide a monthly breakdown between November 2020 and June 2022. Kindly complete the spreadsheet attached, on the tab called "IAPT by medium for children".

5) Depot Injections given between Jan 2020 and June 2022

a) Please provide the number of depot injections given to patients broken down by location. Please provide a monthly breakdown between March 2020 and June 2022. Kindly complete the spreadsheet attached, on the tab called "Depot injections given".

6) Alternative arrangements

- a) If a patient could not access a remote appointment, what was the Board's offer to access care?
- b) If home visits or depot clinic were withdrawn for people needing depot injections, what were the alternative arrangements?

Management of Covid in Psychiatric Wards between March 2020 and June 2022

c) Did you shut any services in whole or in part or stop taking patients into a service or on a waiting list during lockdown. If yes, could you explain the reason that decision was taken.

7) Visits to wards

- a) Did you change your policy to restrict visits from friends and family to patients on the wards during this time (Between March 2020 and June 2022)?
- b) Did any policies or rules for visits vary for different age groups and groups of patients?
- c) If visits were restricted, did you put on additional methods for patients to keep in touch with friends and family such as extra phones for the wards or setting up video calls?
- d) If yes, what date(s) did you provide extra facilities?

8) Access to outdoors

- a) Did you have any policies on access to outdoors/ fresh air for patients?
- b) Did these policies change during lock down, and if so please specify dates that any fresh air policies changed.

9) S17 Leave

a) Did you have any updated policies and procedures on s17 leave during this time? For example, was s17 leave routinely cancelled?

Powys Response:

Q1 – 3 Please see FOI 23.R.358 Attachment 1 in response to provision of mental health care and services immediately before and during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Q4a Please note that the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service does not operate a separate IAPT service, therefore this data is included within the response to Q2.

Q5a I can confirm that PTHB does not centrally collect figures on the number of depot injections administered by location. Please note that during the Covid-19 period, any depot injections were given at the patient's home unless they were an inpatient on the ward. To answer your question this would require a manual trawl of all patients' medical records during this period. We estimate that the cost of complying with your request would exceed the fees limit of £450 set by the Freedom of Information Act. It is estimated that one person would need to spend 3½ working days to determine whether the Health Board holds the information, and locating, retrieving, and extracting the information. Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act the Health Board is therefore not obliged to comply with this part of your request.

Q6a All referrals and requests for access to services were triaged using the Colgate Model. Telephone and video conference appointments were available, and face-to-face appointments continued for those unable to access virtual contact, or whose risk assessment indicated that face-to-face contact was required. All face-to-face contact was carried out in line with appropriate Covid-19 Measures.

Q6b No depot clinics were withdrawn due to Covid-19. All prescribed depot medication was administered in line with relevant Covid-19 measures. Please note that during the Covid-19 period any depot injections were administered at the patient home unless they were an inpatient on a ward.

Q6c Following the outbreak of Covid-19, cognitive stimulation therapy groups were stopped, along with the Day Hospitals based on Crug and Tawe ward. No other Mental Health Services were withdrawn or shut down as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Q7a All changes to PTHB policies were in line with corporate Infection, Prevention and Control guidance at the times where Covid-19 transmission levels were at a peak or where outbreaks were declared in inpatient settings.

Q7b I can confirm PTHB policies or rules for visits did not vary for different age groups and groups of patients.

Q7c PTHB did apply additional methods for patients to keep in touch with their friends and family by both telephone and video calls.

Q7d Telephone contact has always been an option for families and carers, and video calls were made available following national declaration of the pandemic.

Q8a PTHB did have policies on access to outdoors and fresh air.

Q8b PTHB policies on access to outdoors and fresh air did not change during lock down.

Q9a I can confirm that PTHB did not routinely send patients on S17 leave during this time. If patients did go on leave, they were advised to follow national guidelines, which at times included the requirement for patients to be tested on return, and isolated until a negative test was returned.

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
2nd Floor,
Churchill House,
Churchill Way,
Cardiff, CF10 2HH
Tel: 029 2067 8400 Fax 029 2067 8399
www.ico.org.uk 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



Joy Garfitt
Director of Operations/ Director of Community & Mental Health