

Information Governance Team
Hafren Ward
Bronllys Hospital
Bronllys
Brecon

Powys LD3 0LY

Email: Powys.FOI@wales.nhs.uk Tel: 01686 252159/01874 442071

Our ref: IG/FOI/23.R.375 4 December 2023

Sent via email to:

Dear

Request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

I write further to your request for information which was received on 30 October 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:

Under the Freedom of Information Act please could you provide the following data for your Board, broken down by each year for the previous five years: -2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022.

- a) Total live births
- b) Total stillbirths
- c) Term stillbirths (from 37 weeks or more)
- d) Total neonatal deaths
- e) The number of midwifery staffing red flags

Clarification:

Please can you confirm whether you mean residents giving birth in Powys or Powys residents giving birth in neighbouring District General Hospital.

Clarification Received:

It is anyone who is born in Powys where the maternity service was used for their birth either at home or in the hospital.

Powys Response:

a) Please see the table below for the number of live births in Powys during 2018 – 2022.

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



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





| Year | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Number of live births | 220 | 212 | 219 | 266 | 200 |

Due to the sparsely populated nature of Powys, we do not provide district general hospital services within the health board area. Powys Teaching Health Board (PTHB) provides a midwife-led maternity service offering home births and births in a midwife-led maternity unit. Consultant-led maternity and neonatal services are provided to Powys families in district general hospitals and specialist hospitals in neighbouring health boards in Wales and neighbouring NHS Trusts in England.

- b-d) PTHB is unable to provide these exact numbers due to the low numbers of individuals involved (5 or less). PTHB believes there is a potential risk of individuals being able to be identified, when considered with other information already available within the public domain, if this was disclosed. Therefore, the data is classed as personal data as defined under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018 and its disclosure would be contrary to the data protection principles and constitute unfair and unlawful processing in regard to Articles 5, 6, and 9 of GDPR. We are therefore withholding this detail under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This exemption is absolute and therefore there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.
- e) Powys maternity services report Red Flag staffing escalations where there is insufficient staff in either the North or South of the county to provide intrapartum care. There is in no electronic data prior to implementation of the new Datix system and therefore we can only provide information from 2021 onwards: -
 - 2021 2 Red Flag escalations.
 - 2022 1 Red Flag escalation.

I can confirm that no women were affected by these short-term staffing issues.

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

<u>www.ico.org.uk</u> <u>twitter.com/iconews</u>

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

Je cof

Joy Garfitt

Director of Operations/ Director of Community & Mental Health