



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 252159/01874 442071

Our ref: IG/FOI/23.R.315

4 October 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 6 September 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:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following data:

- The number of oral cancer referrals received by hospitals in your Trust between January 2017 and the most recent completed month that is available (most likely July or August 2023). I also request this data be presented as monthly figures.

This data will be used to raise awareness of oral cancer and the importance of self-checks and early examination as part of the Oral Health Foundation's November campaign, Mouth Cancer Action Month.

Powys Response:

PTHB provides limited cancer pathways and cannot provide diagnostic pathology or treatment. This means that the data for this request is based on the speciality of referral accepted e.g. oral surgery and ENT (ENT referrals may contain non oral cancer suspicion).

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 gweithred Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol
Addysgu Powys



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

For context, PTHB responsible population access cancer care differently than the other NHS care provider areas, as a health board limited referrals are sent to the provider with the majority flowing from primary care direct into acute secondary commissioned providers in Wales & England e.g., the full picture of oral cancer referrals is not available within our local data warehouse and commissioned providers would include our resident referrals in their FOI returns (there is a risk of duplication).

Therefore, please see the table below for PTHB cancer referrals under the Specialty of Oral Surgery (USC) and in brackets the Specialty of ENT (USC). We do not hold the full date range requested; the data we hold starts from November 2018.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023*
ENT (USC)	30	29	32	20	24
Oral Surgery (USC)	24	23	35	25	10
Total	54	52	67	45	34

*Jan – Aug only for 2023

Unfortunately due to the low numbers (below 5), we have not been able to provide the data broken down as originally requested. 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.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JL Garfitt', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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