



Bwrdd Iechyd  
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Powys Teaching  
Health Board

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Our ref: IG/FOI/24.R.232

19 June 2024

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 5 June 2024, to confirm, in accordance with S.1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, that Powys Teaching Health Board (PTHB) partially holds the information that you require.

For ease of reference your request is set out below and my response follows.

### Your Freedom of Information (FOI) Request:

Please could you answer the below relating to the health board. I recognise the health board is unique compared with others in Wales due to the services that it offers, where this information is not available as a result of this, please could that be reflected in the response.

Could the response be supplied in the exact number of weeks people can expect to wait and the exact number of people who are waiting.

1. How many people are on a waiting list for a first appointment with the following specialties, as of June 1, 2024, and what is the estimated number of weeks a new patient joining that list will have to wait.

- Gynaecology
- Clinical oncology
- Clinical radiology
- Ophthalmology
- Dermatology
- Clinical immunology and allergy
- Trauma and orthopaedics
- General surgery
- Oral surgery

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- Paediatric surgery
- Ear, nose and throat
- Neurology
- Rheumatology
- Urology
- Gastroenterology
- Endocrinology
- Audiological medicine
- Dental medicine
- Anaesthetics

2. How many people are on a waiting list for the following procedures, from the point of confirmation the procedure is needed, as of June 1, 2024, and what is the estimated number of weeks for a patient joining that list before surgery?

- Knee replacement
- Hip replacement.
- Gynaecological laparoscopy
- Colonoscopy
- Bariatric surgery
- Mastectomy
- Breast reconstruction surgery
- Colostomy and ileostomy
- Hernia repair
- A transurethral resection of the prostate
- Heart surgery (not including transplant)
- Arthroscopy

#### Powys Response:

Q1. Due to the rural and sparsely populated nature of Powys, we do not have a District General Hospital (DGH) within the county. Residents would access services for several of these specialties within neighbouring DGH in Wales and England.

Please see the table below, providing information regarding the number of patients and the estimated waiting time in weeks for the specialities that are provided by PTHB. Each speciality waiting times if provided by PTHB have been divided into North Powys and South Powys categories to make data collection easier. Any abbreviation used within the table are listed below:

#### North Powys:

- Bro Ddyfi Hospital Machynlleth (MAC)
- Montgomeryshire County Infirmary, Newtown (MCI)
- Llanidloes War Memorial Hospital (LND)
- Victoria Memorial Hospital Welshpool, (VMW)

#### South Powys:

- Llandrindod Wells Memorial Hospital (LWMH)
- Breconshire War Memorial Hospital (BWMH)

Please note: All waiting times are approximate and may be shorter or longer depending on clinic activity.

Specialty	South Powys Wait time		North Powys Wait time	
	Number of patients on the list	Estimated waiting time (weeks)	Number of patients on the list	Estimated waiting time (weeks)
Gynaecology	166	27	15	15 weeks for MCI & VMW. 8 weeks for LND & MAC
Clinical oncology	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Clinical radiology	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Ophthalmology	525	34	86	18
Dermatology	105	25 (LWMH only)	N/A	N/A
Clinical immunology and allergy	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Trauma and orthopaedics	557	40	22	15
General surgery	238	32 (BWMH) & LWMH only)	80	40
Oral surgery	69	10 BWMH) & LWMH only)	N/A	N/A
Paediatric surgery	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Ear, nose and throat	241	24	243	55
Neurology	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Rheumatology	147	44	N/A	N/A
Urology	127	34	N/A	N/A
Gastroenterology	No specific gastroenterology waiting, only general surgery.		11	17
Endocrinology	Patients are seen in District General Hospitals first and then come to us for follow up only.		N/A	N/A
Audiological medicine	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Dental medicine	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Anaesthetics	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Q2. Due to the rural and sparsely populated nature of Powys, we do not have a DGH within the county. Residents would access the majority of services for these types of procedures within neighbouring DGH in Wales and England. There is one procedure provided by PTHB and our response is within the table below:

Procedure	South Powys Wait time		North Powys Wait time	
	Number of patients on the list	Estimated waiting time (weeks)	Number of patients on the list	Estimated waiting time (weeks)
Arthroscopy	4	12 weeks	N/A	N/A

Under the terms of the Health Board's Freedom of Information procedure, individuals seeking access to recorded information held by the Health Board are entitled to request an internal review of the handling of their requests. If you would like to complain about the Health Board's handling of your request, please contact us directly at the address below or register your complaint via [powysfoi.foi@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:powysfoi.foi@wales.nhs.uk)

If after Internal Review you remain dissatisfied you are also entitled to refer the matter to the information commissioner at the Information Commissioner's Office (Wales), 2nd Floor, Churchill House, Churchill Way, Cardiff, CF10 2HH. Telephone Number: 0330 414 6421.

Yours sincerely



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

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.