

Our ref: IG/FOI.021.24

17 October 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 12 September 2024 and subsequent clarification received on 24 September 2024, 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:

1. How many people have been diagnosed with a form of dementia in your health board in each of the last three years?
2. Over the last 12 month period (or as close to that within your data sets) what was the average time between a patient being referred and that patient receiving a dementia diagnosis in your health board?
3. What was the longest time a patient waited between being referred and that patient receiving a dementia diagnosis?
4. Does the health board have a stated target for the time between referral and dementia diagnosis? If so, what is that target?
5. How many specialist dementia nurses currently work for the health board?
6. How many specialist dementia doctors currently work for the health board?

Clarification Requested:

Regarding questions 5 & 6, please can you confirm what you mean by 'specialist'.

Clarification Received:

I am hoping to know how many consultant-level health professionals with dementia training are employed by the health board.

Powys Response:

Given the rural and sparsely populated of Powys, our residents access many of their acute and specialist care services from neighbouring health boards in Wales and neighbouring NHS Trusts in England. Locally we provide those services that it is clinically appropriate to provide in a rural community setting, whilst more specialist services would be provided by commissioned services. Our response relates to activity and staffing of Powys Teaching Health Board (PTHB) and does not include staff employed by other health boards and NHS Trusts who provide dementia services to Powys residents.

Q1. Please see the table below for the number of individuals who have been diagnosed with a form of dementia in PTHB over the last three years. Unfortunately, PTHB does not hold the information for 2021/ 2022.

Form of Dementia	2022/ 2023	2023/ 2024
Dementia	314	398
Mild Cognitive Impairment	58	153

Q2. The average time between a patient being referred and that patient receiving a dementia diagnosis within PTHB is 25 weeks.

Q3. The longest time a patient waited between being referred and that patient receiving a dementia diagnosis was 70 weeks.

Q4. The Welsh Government (WG) stated the National target for the time between referral and dementia diagnosis is 12 weeks. PTHB are governed by the WG National target. PTHB are working to reduce waiting times for diagnosis in line with National Dementia Standards.

Q5. A specialist is someone educated to at least Master's level, with a high degree of autonomous decision-making, and the ability to provide advanced and complex care. PTHB has two specialist nurses. However, we have a dedicated Memory Assessment Service (MAS) and Dementia Home Treatment Team (DHTT) team nurses who are specialist in their field. PTHB has four MAS & DHTT band 7 nurses and seven MAS band 6 nurses

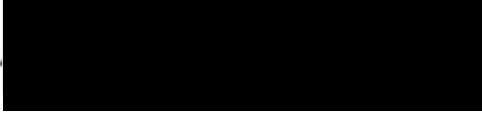
Q6. I can confirm PTHB has three substantive Consultant Psychiatrists.

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

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



Louisa Kerr
Assistant Director for Mental Health and Learning Disabilities

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.