

Our ref: IG/FOI/FOI.477.25

23 September 2025

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 20 August 2025 and subsequent clarification received on 22 August 2025, 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 my response follows.

Your Freedom of Information (FOI) Request

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following information regarding Urology services within your Trust/Health Board:

Q1. Activity / Case Volumes

- The number of urology procedures performed in each of the last three financial years, broken down into:
 - a) Diagnostic procedures (e.g. cystoscopies, biopsies).
 - b) Therapeutic procedures (e.g. TURBT, prostate surgery, stone management, ureteroscopy).

Q2. Waiting Times

- The current average waiting time for urology diagnostic procedures.
- The current average waiting time for urology therapeutic procedures.
- The number of patients currently waiting for a urology procedure (diagnostic vs therapeutic if available).

Q3. Budgets

- The annual budget allocated to urology services for each of the last three financial years. -

Q4. KPIs

- Any key performance indicators (KPIs) currently used to measure the performance of urology services (e.g. RTT targets, diagnostic waiting time targets).
- Current performance against those KPIs.

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



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

Clarification Requested:

Please can you list the diagnostic and therapeutic procedures you wish to be considered, to enable the service to investigate your request.

Clarification Response:

I would like all diagnostic and therapeutic procedures for the Urology service performed in the health board. I have attached a response that I received from another health board in the UK.

Admission Hospital	Primary Procedure National	Procedure Description	Report Type		Grand Total	Admission Hospital	Report Type Day Case
			DC	IP			
	M421	ENDOSCOPIC RESECTION OF LESION OF BLADDER	<5		<5		871
	M451	DIAG ENDO EXAMINATION OF BLADDER AND BIOPSY OF LESION OF BLADDER NEC	13		13		907
	M458	OTHER SPECIFIED DIAGNOSTIC ENDOSCOPIC EXAMINATION OF BLADDER	<5		<5		1406
	M459	UNSPECIFIED DIAGNOSTIC ENDOSCOPIC EXAMINATION OF BLADDER	1533	11	1544		36
							750
	M071	URETEROSCOPIC LASER FRAGMENTATION OF CALCULUS OF KIDNEY		14	14		576
	M094	ENDOSCOPIC EXTRACTION OF CALCULUS OF KIDNEY NEC		10	10		482
	M271	URETEROSCOPIC LASER FRAGMENTATION OF CALCULUS OF URETER	6	82	88		197
	M421	ENDOSCOPIC RESECTION OF LESION OF BLADDER	10	131	141		289
	M451	DIAG ENDO EXAMINATION OF BLADDER AND BIOPSY OF LESION OF BLADDER NEC	10	44	54	Grand Total	5514
	M452	DIAG ENDO EXAMINATION OF BLADDER AND BIOPSY OF LESION OF PROSTATE NEC	<5		<5		
	M458	OTHER SPECIFIED DIAGNOSTIC ENDOSCOPIC EXAMINATION OF BLADDER	6	<5	8		
	M459	UNSPECIFIED DIAGNOSTIC ENDOSCOPIC EXAMINATION OF BLADDER	1179	99	1278		
	M651	ENDOSCOPIC RESECTION OF PROSTATE USING ELECTROTOME	<5	18	19		
	M663	ENDOSCOPIC RESECTION OF PROSTATE NEC		63	63		

Powys Response:

Q1. Please see the table below for Urology procedures performed in Powys hospitals in the last 3 financial years, broken down by coded procedure description. Please Note: We are unable to distinguish if these are therapeutic or diagnostic:

Financial Year 2022/2023	
Primary Procedure Description	Number of procedures
Diag, Endo. Examination Of Bladder Using Rigid Cystoscope (Diagnostic Endoscopic Examination of Bladder)	1
Dorsal Slit of Prepuce (Operations on Prepus)	2
Circumcision (Operations on Prepuce)	3
Excision of Lesion of Penis (Extirpation of Lesion of Penis)	1
Change of Suprapubic Tube into Bladder (Other Operations on Bladder)	4
Uncoded	17
Unspecified (Diagnostic Endoscopic Examination of Bladder)	2
Eversion of Hydrocele Sac (Operations on Hydrocele Sac)	1
Frenuloplasty of Penis (Plastic Operations on Penis)	2
Excision of Lesion of Epididymis (Operations on Epididymis)	2
Diag Endo Exam Bladder and Biopsy Lesion Bladder Rigid Cyst (Diagnostic Endoscopic Examination of Bladder)	1
Removal Of Urethral Catheter from Bladder (Urethral Catheterisation of Bladder)	1
Change of Urethral Catheter into Bladder (Urethral Catheterisation of Bladder)	2

Financial Year 2023/2024	
Primary Procedure Description	Number of procedures
Circumcision (Operations on Prepuce)	5
Change of Suprapubic Tube into Bladder (Other Operations on Bladder)	6
Uncoded	7
Drainage of Hydrocele Sac (Operations on Hydrocele Sac)	1
Unspecified (Diagnostic Endoscopic Examination of Bladder)	5
Excision of Lesion of Epididymis (Operations on Epididymis)	1

Financial Year 2024/2025	
Primary Procedure Description	Number of procedures
Circumcision (Operations on Prepuce)	10
Uncoded	22
Unspecified (Diagnostic Endoscopic Examination of Bladder)	2
Excision of Lesion of Epididymis (Operations on Epididymis)	2
Other Specified (Diagnostic Endoscopic Examination of Bladder)	3
Change of Urethral Catheter into Bladder (Urethral Catheterisation ff Bladder)	2

Q2. Please see the table below for the average wait time for patients who had waited from referral to admission where the admission was for Urology in the last 3 financial years, and there was a procedure coded for the appointment.

Treatment (Financial Year)	Average weeks for treatment
2022 - 2023	10
2023 - 2024	13
2024 - 2025	11

I can confirm that the number of patients currently waiting for Urology at each pathway stage on the census date of 31 August 2025 is shown below. We do not have the information regarding what the patient is waiting for so the waiting time is for Urology appointments only. Pathway stage 2 is the most representative of a wait for a diagnostic or therapeutic intervention; however, this could also indicate waiting for a result.

Pathway stage	Count of pathways
1. Waiting for a new outpatient appointment.	131
2. Waiting for a diagnostic or Allied Health Professional (AHP) test, intervention or result.	13
3. Waiting for a follow-up outpatient appointment or waiting for a decision.	7
4. Waiting for an admitted diagnostic or therapeutic intervention (i.e. treatment) only.	16

Q3. I can confirm that we do not have a distinct Urology budget however the figures below show total Urology spend for the past 3 financial years:

Financial Year	Total (£)
2022 - 2023	3,951,543
2023 - 2024	4,630,363
2024 - 2025	4,748,963

Q4. In Wales, urology service performance is measured against Referral to Treatment (RTT) times and diagnostic waiting time targets, as set by Welsh Government guidelines. Powys Teaching Health Board (PTHB) also utilises a Performance Management Framework to monitor, evaluate, and enhance service delivery. RTT Targets are as follows:

- 95% of patients should commence treatment within 26 weeks of referral.
- 100% should commence treatment within 36 weeks.

Although these remain the official standards, they have been temporarily superseded by recovery milestones due to the impact of COVID-19. The current targets set by Welsh Government are:

- ≤ 52 weeks for clinic appointments
- < 104 weeks for treatment

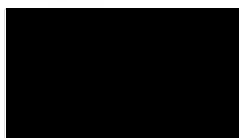
Diagnostic Waiting Time Targets are as follows:

- Routine patients should wait ≤ 8 weeks for specified diagnostic tests.
- Urgent Suspected Cancer (USC) patients should wait ≤ 2 weeks.

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 Powys.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



Linzi Shone
Professional Head of Nursing

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.