

Our ref: IG/FOI/FOI.196.25

12 March 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 7 February 2025, and subsequent clarification received on 24 February 2025 and 26 February 2025. In accordance with S.1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I can confirm that Powys Teaching Health Board (PTHB) does hold the information that you require but have applied an exemption to elements of this request.

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

### Freedom of Information (FOI) Request:

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Specifically, I am requesting details of the outpatient waiting times for all services, specialties, and sub-specialties categorised under community paediatrics from 2015 to 2025. More specifically:

Q1. Outpatient pathways for Medical-led services: Please provide the number of outpatient pathways for all services, specialties, and sub-specialties categorised as community paediatrics and neurodiversity services for medically led clinics through any commissioning line from 2015 to 2025. Displayed annually and using the most up to date data.

Q2. Inpatient patient pathways where a child or young person is already known to a service, including therapeutic and psychological services: Please provide the number of patient pathways for all services, specialties, and sub-specialties categorised as community paediatrics for patients due to receive planned treatment through any commissioning line from 2015 to 2025. Displayed annually and using the most up to date data.

Q3. Outpatient patient pathways for AHP Led Services: Please provide the outpatient patient pathways for all services categorised as community paediatrics and child health for Allied Health Professional led services through any commissioning line from 2015 to 2025. To include, speech and language, occupational therapy, physiotherapy and dietetics.

Any shorter-term data sets, ideally pre-COVID will be acceptable if 2015-2025 is not available.

Clarification Requested:

Please can you confirm if you are asking about outpatient waiting times as questions 1-3 are questions around pathways and appointments.

Question 1:

- Please can you confirm what is meant by 'medically led' clinics.
- Please can you confirm what is meant by 'through any commissioning line'.
- Please can you confirm if you require an end of year waiting list snapshot or the number of pathways where a patient was seen in a given year.

Question 2:

- Do you mean the number of episodes where patients were admitted to hospital for planned care who were known to Community Paediatrics?
- Also, do you require the information for patients just admitted within PTHB, or any PTHB patients seen in other Health Boards.

Please note – if you require information on PTHB patients seen in other Health Board's some patients would be double counted.

Question 3:

- Please can you confirm if you require the information on the number of patients on any paediatric pathway or the number of open paediatric pathways.

Clarification Response received:

Question 1:

Medically led clinics would relate to clinics run by a consultant paediatrician and commissioning lines related to any care provided. However I've rephrased the questions as this may be better suited, if not, please go with the original with the additional information.

Q1. Please provide the number of patients waiting for services, specialties, and sub-specialties categorised under 'community paediatrics' and 'neurodiversity services' from 2015 to 2025. Displayed annually and using the most up to date data.

A snapshot of data from the 31 January each year would suffice.

Question 2:

Yes please.

Question 3:

Admitted within PTHB would be great.

Powys Response:

Q1. Please see the table below for a waiting list snapshot of Powys Teaching Health Boards (PTHB) Community Paediatrics and Neurodevelopment for Medically led clinics 2023 to 2025. Please note: PTHB data only goes back to 2023.

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|-------------|--------------|
| 31.01.2025  | 129          |
| 31.01.2024  | 133          |
| 31.01.2023  | 172          |

Q2. 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.

In accordance with Section 16 of the FOI Act and our duty to assist and advise, I can confirm that for the period 2014 – 2024 there was a total of 5 episodes where a patient was admitted to hospital for planned care who was known to Community Paediatrics - PTHB only. Please note PTHB does not have children's beds. The results are due to day surgery and maternity for under 18's.

Q3. Please see the table below PTHB waiting list snapshot for Outpatient patient pathways for AHP Led Services (Occupational Therapy Paediatrics, Speech & Language Therapy Paediatrics, Paediatric Continence, Dietetics Paediatrics, Physiotherapy Paediatrics) from 2023 to 2025. Please note: PTHB data only goes back to 2023.

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|-------------|--------------|
| 31.01.2025  | 303          |
| 31.01.2024  | 504          |
| 31.01.2023  | 273          |

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](mailto: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



**David Farnsworth**  
**Assistant Director, Community Services Group**

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.