

Our ref: IG/FOI/FOI.265.25

16 April 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 28 March 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:

I am conducting research into perceptions of Down Syndrome in antenatal care and would like to request copies of communication materials sent to expectant women within your Trust. Specifically, I would appreciate copies of the following:

Q1. Letters sent to expectant women advising of screening test results following combined or quadruple screening for Down Syndrome. If the content differs based on the likelihood of a high or low chance result, please provide examples of both.

Q2. Letters or result notifications from Non-Invasive Prenatal Testing (NIPT), including examples for both high and low chance results if they differ.

Q3. Any information shared with expectant women regarding these tests (combined/quadruple screening and NIPT), including letters, leaflets, or signposting materials.

Q4. Any materials provided to expectant women about Down Syndrome itself, including guidance on pregnancy and care following an antenatal diagnosis.

I understand that some of these materials may be subject to redactions where necessary to remove personal or sensitive information.

Powys Response:

Q1. Please see FOI.265.25 Attachment 1 and FOI.265.25 Attachment 2 for Powys Teaching Health Board's (PTHB) letters to expectant women advising of screening test results following combined or quadruple screening for Down Syndrome. We do not send out letters to women if their results are a high chance combined screening / quadruple result, we would call the patient to discuss further options.

Q2. We would not send out letters for Non-Invasive Prenatal Testing (NIPT) results.

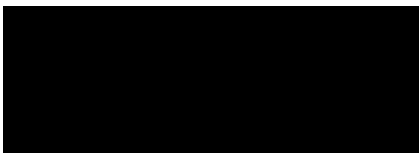
Q3. I can confirm most of our information is on the Antenatal screening Wales (ASW) website. If the women have a positive result, they are given the ASW book called 'This information is for you if you have been offered further tests for suspected chromosomal or genetic conditions'. We identify the specific chapters that they are to read. We also give individuals the Antenatal Results & Choice (ARC) contact details.

Q4. Within Powys, we refer our patients to the Foetal medicine team out of county where they then see the specialists there. Depending on the diagnosis we would give out Down syndrome Association (DSA) contact details or Support organisation for Trisomy 13/18 SOFT UK.

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



Zoe Ashman
Interim Assistant Director, Women & Children

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.