

Our ref: IG/FOI/FOI.322.25

10 July 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 13 May 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, but have applied an exemption to elements of this request.

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

Your Freedom of Information (FOI) Request:

1. The information requested:

We ask you to provide the information described below, including the prices paid to independent and voluntary sector Homecare Providers for the provision of regulated Homecare services delivered to people aged 65 years and over in their own home during the seven-day Reference Period which includes Monday 14 April 2025. Your attention is drawn to the definitions and interpretation described in sections 2 and 3. The information requested is:

a. The lowest rate per hour paid to any individual Homecare Provider during the Reference Period, expressed in pounds and pence per hour.

b. The highest rate per hour paid to any individual Homecare Provider during the Reference Period, expressed in pounds and pence per hour.

c. The average ("arithmetic mean") rate per hour paid to all Homecare Providers for all Homecare services purchased during the Reference Period, expressed in pounds and pence per hour.

d. The total hours of Homecare purchased from all Homecare Providers during the Reference Period (i.e. any period of seven consecutive days which includes Monday 14 April 2025).

e. The total hours of Homecare purchased from all Homecare Providers during a seven-day period which includes Monday 15 April 2024 (i.e. the figure which provides a like-for-like comparison with item (d), above, for the previous year).

f. Your organisation's total spend on Homecare services purchased from all Homecare Providers during the Reference Period.

g. The total number of Homecare Providers that delivered the total hours of Homecare purchased during the Reference Period (as specified in item (d), above).

h. The total number of people aged 65 years and over that received Homecare services from Homecare Providers during the Reference Period.

i. A brief description of the type of contracts you currently hold with Homecare Providers (i.e. whether they are block contracts, lead provider contracts, framework contracts, spot contracts, etc.).

Questions (a)-(i) refer to Homecare services. Questions (j) and (k) refer to Direct Payments.

j. The 2025-26 rate per hour for a Direct Payment, expressed in pounds and pence per hour. If you have more than one Direct Payment rate per hour, please select the rate paid to a recipient to employ a personal assistant (PA). If you have more than one Direct Payment PA rate per hour, please provide all such rates.

k. The total number of adults in receipt of a Direct Payment as of: (I) 1 April 2024 and (II) 1 April 2025 (or dates as close to these as possible).

2. Definitions

Terms defined below in the singular include the plural, unless otherwise stated.

Homecare should be interpreted as referring to social care and support services delivered in people's own homes. This service may also be known as 'domiciliary care' or 'care at home'.

Homecare Provider refers to an independent or voluntary sector organisation providing Homecare registered by any of the following national statutory regulators:

[Care Quality Commission \(CQC\)](#)

[Care Inspectorate Wales \(CIW\)](#)

[Care Inspectorate](#)

[The Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority \(RQIA\)](#)

Reference Period means any period of seven consecutive days which includes Monday 14 April 2025.

In relation to the *lowest*, *highest* and *average* prices paid to Homecare Providers in questions (a) to (c), you should note that our assumption is that your answers will include careworkers' travel time and mileage costs, unless you advise us to

the contrary. You may, at your discretion, provide any qualifying statements or clarification about the figures returned in your reply to these questions.

A *Direct Payment* is a sum of money paid to an individual so that they can arrange their own care and support.

3. Selecting the data requested (questions (a) to (i) only)

The following guidance will help you select the correct data sample to complete this request in questions (a) to (i) only.

In case of doubt, you should apply a common-sense interpretation to the request outlined in section 1, above. For example, if you do not hold the requested information specifically for the Reference Period, please provide the information for as close to the Reference Period as possible. The data sample used to provide this information should include:

- Homecare delivered by independent and voluntary sector Homecare Providers.
- Services delivered to adults aged 65 years and over.
- Services which are primarily designed to provide personal care and support, including prompting people to undertake such activities for themselves.
- The care element (only) of services delivered in 'extra care housing' or 'supported living' schemes (i.e. excluding any payment for providing housing or housing services).

You should exclude the following items from the data sample used:

- Services provided to adults under the age of 65 years.
- Services which are charged by reference to a unit price, other than a price per hour (or part thereof).
- Any payments made directly to people in lieu of the provision of services by your organisation (e.g. a direct payment).
- Services provided by any 'in-house' homecare team, where the workforce is employed by your organisation.

Powys Response:

Please Note: The breakdown of the categories requested 65+ are not routinely reported. Therefore, we do not hold the information in this format to complete the details of this FOI request. The information provided is based on the total expenditure for Adult Homecare for the reference period Monday 14 April 2025.

Q1a. I can confirm that the lowest rate per hour paid to any individual Homecare Provider during the period requested was £25.00.

Q1b. I can confirm that the highest rate per hour paid to any individual Homecare Provider during the period requested was £113.795.

Q1c. The average rate per hour paid to all Homecare Providers for all Homecare services purchased during the period requested was £32.60.

Q1d. The total hours of Homecare purchased from all Homecare Providers during the period requested was 1,503.46.

Q1e. I can confirm PTHB does not hold this information. The National Complex Care Database (NCCD) does not hold this data for more than a year so this would require a manually trawl through records of packages in patient files and old panel minutes. We estimate that the cost of complying with your request would exceed the fees limit of £450 set by the Freedom of Information Act. We estimate that one person would need to spend longer than 18 hours to determine whether the Health Board holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act the Health Board is therefore not obliged to comply with this part of your request

Q1f. The total spend on Homecare services purchased from all Homecare Providers during the period requested was £49,024.00.

Q1g. The total number of Homecare Providers that delivered the total hours of Homecare purchased during the period requested was 13.

Q1h. I can confirm that 20 individuals aged 65 years and over received Homecare services from Homecare Providers during the period requested.

Q1i. I can confirm that the type of contracts that we currently hold with Homecare Providers are spot contracts for each patient.

Q1j and Q1k. I can confirm that we do not have any patients on direct payment or with a personal assistant, therefore this is a nil response.

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



David Farnsworth
Assistant Director, Community Services Group



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.