

Our ref: IG/FOI/FOI.509.25

7 October 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 22 September 2025, to confirm, in accordance with S.1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, that Powys Teaching Health Board (PTHB) partially holds the information that you require. For ease of reference your request is set out below and my response follows each question individually.

Your Freedom of Information (FOI) Request and Powys Response (Bold):

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act to request the following information:

With regards to the FOIs' wording below, if your health board does not have its own BMI policy regarding access to orthopaedic surgery, please interpret the following wording in the FOIs 'your health board's BMI policy' as including your practice based on your Health Board's interpretation of regional or national guidelines.

Please Note: Our response below is for day case procedures only. Powys Teaching Health Board (PTHB) does not have District General Hospital (DGH); therefore we are only able to carry out low-risk procedures in both theatres and endoscopy. While both high and low risk patients can be seen in clinic, most consultants are familiar with our criteria and understand which procedures are suitable for day cases in PTHB.

PTHB does not hold data on removals from waiting lists for clinical reasons, including Body Mass Index (BMI). For surgical procedures, we follow our local pre-operative assessment guidelines, which include BMI criteria for treatment eligibility within PTHB. Please see FOI.509.25 attachment 1 - Clinical Guidelines for Pre-assessment. If a patient is deemed unsuitable for a day case procedure within PTHB, they are transferred to the consultant's Health Board under the Service Level Agreement (SLA). They may then be booked back into clinic with us for follow-up, if required.

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However, on occasion, patients who do not meet the criteria may be added to the day case waiting list. Usually BMI is checked at clinic, so if a patient were over our limit, they would not reach our day case waiting list. The consultant in clinic would complete the necessary paperwork for the patient to be treated at their Health Board.

The data below has been gathered from transfer paperwork for all specialties up to 2020, data is not available prior to 2020.

Q1. How many patients in your health board have been removed from the T&O waiting list without receiving an orthopaedic specific treatment and/or procedure in each of the following months: January, February, March, April, May, June and July in 2025, 2024, 2023 and 2019? - **Please see the table below :**

Year	Number of patients removed
2025	7 (transferred to in reach consultant health board under SLA)
2024	0
2023	0
2019	Information not available

Q2. How many patients in your health board have been removed from the T&O waiting list without receiving an orthopaedic specific treatment and/or procedure by each of the data categories you use for such removals, in each of the following months: January, February, March, April, May, June and July in 2025, 2024, 2023 and 2019? - **Please see Q1 above.**

Q3. How many patients in your health board have been removed from the T&O waiting list without receiving an orthopaedic specific treatment and/or procedure due to their BMI score as a consequence of your health board's BMI policy in each of the following months: January, February, March, April, May, June and July in 2025, 2024, 2023 and 2019? – **During 2023, 2024 and 2025 I can confirm that no patients were removed from the T&O waiting list due to their BMI score as a consequence of PTHB’s BMI policy.**

Q4. How many patients in your health board on the T&O waiting list have had RTT clock reset, stopped or paused without receiving an orthopaedic specific treatment and/or procedure in each of the following months: January, February, March, April, May, June and July in 2025, 2024, 2023 and 2019? **I can confirm that we do not centrally record this data and are therefore unable to answer this question.**

Q5. How many patients in your health board on the T&O waiting list have had RTT clock reset, stopped or paused without receiving an orthopaedic specific treatment and/or procedure by each of the data categories you use for such cases in each of the following months: January, February, March, April, May, June and July in 2025, 2024, 2023 and 2019? **I can confirm that we do not centrally record this data and are therefore unable to answer this question.**

Q6. How many patients in your health board on the T&O waiting list have had RTT clock reset, stopped or paused without receiving an orthopaedic specific treatment and/or procedure as a consequence of your health board's BMI policy

in each of the following months: January, February, March, April, May, June and July in 2025, 2024, 2023 and 2019? – **During 2023, 2024 and 2025 I can confirm that no patients on the T&O waiting list had their Referral to Treatment (RTT) clock reset, stopped or paused without receiving an orthopaedic specific treatment and/or procedure as a consequence of PTHB's BMI policy.**

Q7. How many patients in your health board have not been referred to the T&O waiting list from CMATS due to their BMI score as a consequence of your Health Board's BMI policy in each of the following months: January, February, March, April, May, June and July in 2025, 2024, 2023 and 2019? **I can confirm that we do not centrally record this data and are therefore unable to answer this question.**

If you have queries or any concerns, contact details are given at the top of the letter. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications. If you are dissatisfied with the handling or response to your request and wish to ask for a review of this, please contact us and we will arrange for this to be done.

Further information is available from the Information Commissioner's Office who can be contacted at:

Address: Information Commissioner's Office (Wales), 2nd Floor, Churchill House, Churchill Way, Cardiff, CF10 2HH.

Telephone: 0330 414 6421

Complaints Portal: www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints

Web site: <https://ico.org.uk/>

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All information supplied by the Health Board in answering a request for information (RFI) under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 will be subject to the terms of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015.

Under the terms of the Regulations, the Health Board will licence the re-use of any or all information supplied if being used in a form and for the purpose other than which it was originally supplied. This license for re-use will be in line with the requirements of the Regulations and the licensing terms and fees as laid down by the Office of Public Sector Information (OPSI). Most licenses will be free; however, the Health Board reserves the right, in certain circumstances to charge a fee for the re-use of some information which it deems to be of commercial value.

Further information including a sample license terms and fees can be found at Open Government Licence.

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.