

Our ref: IG/FOI/FOI.158.26

6 May 2026

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 10 April 2026, to confirm, in accordance with S.1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, that Powys Teaching Health Board (PTHB) partly holds the information that you require. For ease of reference your request is set out below and the Health Board's 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:

I am writing to submit a Freedom of Information request regarding consultant Supporting Professional Activities (SPAs) and external duties. The full request is included below for ease of reference. If possible, we would appreciate responses in Excel or CVS format. Please provide the following information regarding substantive consultant medical and dental staff for your most recently completed job planning round (and in section 5, the past 5 years).

Workforce Overview

Q1. The number of substantive consultants employed (headcount and WTE)

18 – headcount.

12.42 – Whole Time Equivalent (WTE).

Q2. Your organisation's current standard (or reference) job plan for a full-time consultant, including the normal DCC/SPA split. (Please provide the document or template if available) – **Please see attached FOI.158.26 Attachment 1 Effective Consultant Job Planning Guidance (page 25-26). There is a 7:3 split for 10 session job plans.**

SPA Allocation

Q3. Number of consultant posts with SPA time and total SPAs allocated – **All substantive consultants have SPA allocated. SPA is recorded in individual job plans. The total for the Health Board is not recorded.**

Q4. Typical SPA allocation in a 10-PA contract – **3 SPAs.**

Q5. How many consultant posts have no SPA time allocated? – **None.**

Q6. Count of consultants according to the number of SPAs stated in their job plan:

<1.0 SPA

1.0–1.4 SPA

1.5–1.9 SPA

2.0–2.4 SPA

≥2.5 SPA

– **All substantive.**

Q7. Since 1 April 2020, have there been any changes to SPA allocation policy or the standard consultant DCC/SPA split? – **No.**

If yes, please provide any available documentation and briefly outline these changes. – **Not applicable.**

External Duties

Royal Colleges, Specialist Associations and National Bodies recently refreshed National guidance highlights the need to support professional and national roles within job planning.

Q8. Does your organisation have a policy or standard approach for recognising external professional duties including but not limited to the following: Roles for Royal Colleges/ Faculties, Specialist societies or associations, National clinical networks, guideline groups or NHS national bodies, or Regulatory roles (e.g., GMC, NICE) Please answer: Yes/No. If yes, provide the policy or a summary.

– **Yes, there is a written policy, however SPA time is allocated for external duties. Please see attached FOI.158.26 Attachment 1 Effective Consultant Job Planning Guidance.**

For consultants who currently hold such external or national duties, please provide the number who:

Q9. Have allocated PA(s) – **the Health Board does not hold numbers.**

Q10. Are permitted to use existing SPA allocation – **the Health Board does not hold this information.**

Q11. Undertake these duties in their own time – **the Health Board does not hold this information.**

Protection of SPA time

Q12. Does the organisation monitor whether planned SPA time is delivered? – **No.**

If yes, please provide a short description of the method – **Not applicable.**

Q13. Does the organisation have a policy or guidance on the protection of SPA time (including but not limited to; discouraging routine cancellation or repurposing SPA for service pressures)? – **No.**

If yes, please provide the document – **Not applicable.**

Q14. Summary of activities SPA time was used for (e.g. including but not limited to; education, CPD, audit, research, governance, external duties, etc). – **This is not recorded.**

SPA Time Over the Past Five Years

For each of the past five complete job-planning years, please provide an annual summary showing:

Q15. Number of consultants with SPA time – **All.**

Q16. Total or average SPA time allocated (total SPA PAs or average per consultant) – **This information is not recorded.**

Q17. Total or estimated SPA time used in that year – **This information is not recorded.**

If you are dissatisfied with the handling or response to your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Should you wish an internal review, please quote the reference number and send your correspondence to the above address.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner 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/>

Re-use of Public Sector Information

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



Kate Wright
Executive Medical Director

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.