

Our ref: IG/FOI/FOI.056.26

18 February 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 6 February 2026, 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 the Health Board's response follows each question individually.

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

I am submitting this Freedom of Information request to obtain information regarding the NHS Organisation's Cardiology imaging systems, associated diagnostic reporting processes, and Cardiology departmental activity.

Definitions of key terms are provided at the end of this request to support consistent interpretation.

***** Cardiology Imaging Systems – Core Information *****

This section relates to Cardiology specific digital systems used to store, manage, view, and report Cardiology investigations (for example echocardiography, cardiac catheter laboratory procedures, cardiac CT, or cardiac MRI).

For clarity, NHS Organisations may use a Cardiology PACS (cPACS), a Cardiovascular Information System (CVIS), a combination of both, or an enterprise imaging platform shared with other specialties.

Please answer each question as it applies to your NHS Organisation:

Q1. What Cardiology imaging and/or Cardiology information system(s) are currently in use (please provide system name and supplier)? - **I can confirm that Powys Teaching Health Board (PTHB) use the Radiology Picture Archiving and Communication System (PACS).**

Q2. Which of the following best describes the NHS Organisation's current Cardiology system configuration?

- a. Cardiology PACS (cPACS) only
- b. Cardiovascular Information System (CVIS) only
- c. CVIS with a separate Cardiology PACS (cPACS)
- d. Cardiology imaging is managed within an enterprise PACS shared with other specialties (e.g. Radiology PACS)**

Q3. When did the current Cardiology system contract commence? - **October 2025.**

Q4. When is the current Cardiology system contract due to expire? (Or is it on a rolling annual contract)? - **This is a rolling contract. When the All-Wales Cardiology PACS is established, the aim will be to move cardiac diagnostics onto this system. There is no current timeline regarding this.**

Q5. Are there any contract extension options available under the current agreement? - **As we expand PTHB cardiac diagnostics, we may need to purchase more Radiology PACS storage.**

Q6. Is the Cardiology system contracted locally by the NHS Organisation, or part of a shared, regional, or collaborative arrangement (for example multi-Trust or ICB level)? - **I can confirm that it is a collaborative arrangement.**

- a. If shared, please provide the name of the collaborative arrangement. **Radiology, linking with Radiology Lead and PACS manager.**

***** Cardiac Catheter Laboratory and Supporting Systems *****

Q7. What haemodynamics system(s) are currently used within the cardiac catheter laboratory (please provide system name and manufacturer)? - **Not applicable.**

Q8. What C arm / angiography system(s) are currently used within the cardiac catheter laboratory (please provide system name and manufacturer)? - **Not applicable.**

Q9. What ECG management system is currently used by the NHS Organisation (for example for ECG acquisition, storage, and review)?- **PTHB does not currently have an ECG management system in place.**

Q10. Is any AI software or advanced post processing software used for Cardiology imaging, such as 3D/ 4D post processing of echocardiography images? - **Yes**

- a. If yes, please provide the name and supplier of the solution. - **PTHB use GE Vivid IQ machine, we use its advanced AI-based software and post processing tools including AutoEF, AFI LV, Auto measures and Auto Dopplers. We do not have the upgraded software that can perform 3D/ 4D post processing.**

***** Cardiology Diagnostic Reporting *****

Q11. Which of the following best describes where Cardiology diagnostic reporting is primarily undertaken?

- a. Within a Cardiovascular Information System (CVIS)
- b. Within a Cardiology PACS (cPACS)
- c. Within the Trust's Electronic Patient Record (EPR)
- d. Within a Radiology Information System (RIS)**

***** NHS Organisation Cardiology Departmental Activity *****

Q12. Approximately how many Cardiology imaging studies are undertaken by the NHS Organisation per annum? - **Approximately 700-750 scans per annum.**

Q13. Approximately how many Cardiology imaging studies are shared externally per annum (for example via regional image sharing platforms or inter Trust transfer)? - **I can confirm that 45-50 scans are carried out per annum in North Powys. We do not hold figures for South Powys as these images are stored on Aneurin Bevan University Health Board's PACS system.**

Q14. Does the authority share Cardiology imaging studies with neighbouring Trusts? - **Yes.**

- If so, which Trusts?

- **The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust**
- **Hywel Dda University Health Board**
- **Wye Valley NHS Trust**
- **Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board**
- **Aneurin Bevan University Health Board currently in-reach into Powys (Brecon War Memorial Hospital) and save the images onto their own PACS Radiology system. In the future, we will have to share images with them.**

***** Definitions *****

Cardiovascular Information System (CVIS)

A Cardiovascular Information System (CVIS) is a specialist clinical system used to manage Cardiology workflows and data. This typically includes scheduling, measurements, structured diagnostic reporting, and access to Cardiology imaging. CVIS solutions may access images via integrated image storage or via connection to a shared or enterprise imaging archive.

Cardiology Picture Archiving and Communication System (cPACS) A Cardiology PACS (cPACS) is a Cardiology specific imaging archive used to store, retrieve, view, and distribute Cardiology images and waveforms. This includes echocardiography, cardiac catheter laboratory angiography, cardiac CT, cardiac MRI, and ECG data. cPACS solutions focus primarily on imaging storage and viewing rather than full clinical workflow management.

Electronic Patient Record (EPR)

An Electronic Patient Record (EPR) is used to hold a patient's broader clinical record across the organisation. In Cardiology, an EPR may reference Cardiology investigations and include summary results but does not typically replace specialist Cardiology imaging or diagnostic reporting systems.

Radiology Information System (RIS)

A Radiology Information System (RIS) is a system used to manage radiology workflows, including imaging orders, scheduling, and reporting. In some organisations, RIS platforms may also be used to support Cardiology reporting, particularly where Cardiology imaging is managed within an enterprise PACS.

Cardiac Catheter Laboratory (Cath Lab)

A cardiac catheter laboratory is a specialised clinical environment used for diagnostic and interventional Cardiology procedures. Cath labs typically include haemodynamics systems, angiography (C arm) systems, and associated reporting and imaging software.

Haemodynamics System

A haemodynamics system is used within the cardiac catheter laboratory to record, display, and analyse physiological measurements such as pressures, flows, and waveforms during diagnostic and interventional Cardiology procedures.

Diagnostic Reporting in Cardiology

Diagnostic reporting in Cardiology refers to the interpretation and reporting of Cardiology investigations, including echocardiography, cardiac catheter laboratory procedures, cardiac CT, cardiac MRI, and other Cardiology diagnostics. Reporting may be performed within CVIS, cPACS, RIS, EPR systems, or a combination of these.

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/>

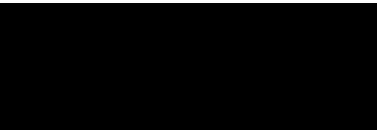
Re-use of Public Sector Information

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



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.