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Bwrdd Iechyd
Addysgu Powys
Powys Teaching
Health Board

Information Governance Team
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Our ref: IG/FOI/FOI.305.26

20 August 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 28 July 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 writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The purpose of this request is to better understand how the Trust balances the control of temporary staffing expenditure with maintaining safe staffing levels and supporting patient flow. There is a significant public interest in understanding how financial controls on agency staffing interact with workforce resilience and the prevention of operational pressures such as corridor care.

Unless otherwise stated, please provide the information for the six-month period ending 30 June 2026. Where possible, I would appreciate the information in Excel or CSV format.

Please note all the expenditure has been rounded to the nearest £'000s. In all instances except Q2c, the expenditure is for the period 1st January 2026 – 30th June 2026. The Nursing Categories are linked to the Service Cost Centres and subjective codes.

Q1. Agency nursing expenditure

Please provide:

a. The total expenditure on nursing staff supplied through NHS framework agencies. - **£810,000**

b. The total expenditure on nursing staff supplied through off-framework (non framework) agencies. - **£358,000**

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c. A breakdown of both categories by nursing speciality or staff group, where recorded (for example RGN, RMN, RNLD or other nursing categories used by the Trust).

Staff Group	Spend in £'000s	
	On Framework	Off Framework
RGN	51	31
RMN	442	284
Unregistered (HCSW/HCA)	317	43

Q2. Temporary staffing expenditure

Please provide:

a. The total expenditure on the Trust's nursing staff bank. - **£1,317,000**

b. The budget for temporary nursing staffing, showing agency and bank separately where this is recorded.

There is no specific budget for Nursing Agency or Bank.

c. Where available, the same information for the equivalent six-month period in the previous financial year. - **£1,171,000.**

Q3. Agency governance

Please provide copies of:

a. The Trust's current policy or procedure governing the use of agency nursing staff. – **Please find enclosed FOI.305.26 Attachment 1: Bank & Agency Policy.**

b. The approval or escalation process required before booking off-framework agency staff.

Each request for agency use must be fully reviewed and scrutinised and requires, multiple levels of approval up to and including Executive Director sign-off before an off-framework agency is engaged.

Q4. Agency demand and fulfilment

Please provide:

a. The total number of nursing shifts released to agency. -**1723.**

b. The total number and percentage of those shifts that remained unfilled. – **20 shifts remain unfilled (1.16%).**

c. Where recorded, the number of unfilled agency shifts that were released with less than five hours' notice before the shift start time. -**4.**

Q5. Workforce resilience and corridor care

Please provide a copy of any Board, Executive, Finance or Workforce Committee report produced during the reporting period that discusses one or more of the following:

- Agency nursing expenditure.
- Staff bank expenditure.
- Unfilled nursing shifts.
- Workforce availability in relation to corridor care, emergency department overcrowding or patient flow

Powys Teaching Health Board (PTHB) does not operate Emergency Departments or District General Hospitals, and corridor care is not provided within the Health Board.

The Health Board considers that Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 applies to this part of your request, as the relevant information is reasonably accessible to you by other means. Section 21 is an absolute exemption and does not require a public interest test. This exemption has been applied because the relevant reports are available in the public domain.

In accordance with the duty to provide advice and assistance under Section 16 of the Act, we can confirm that relevant information can be accessed through the publications listed below:

- [Financial Performance Report Month 09, Board, 28 January 2026.](#)
- [Executive Director of People and Culture Summary Report, People and Culture Committee, 5 March 2026](#)
- [Financial Performance Report Month 12, and Month 01 Summary Board 20 May 2026](#)

If you consider that any part of your request has not been addressed by this response, please submit a new request clearly setting out the specific information you are seeking.

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

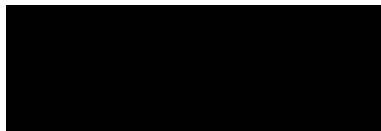
All information supplied by the Health Board in answering a request for information (RFI) under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 will be subject to the terms of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015.

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



Hywel Pullen
Deputy Director of Finance

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.