



GIG  
CYMRU  
NHS  
WALES

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Addysgu Powys  
Powys Teaching  
Health Board

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Powys LD3 0LY

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Our ref: IG/FOI/FOI.240.26

17 June 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 15 June 2026, to confirm, in accordance with S.1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, that Powys Teaching Health Board (PTHB) does not hold the information that you require. For ease of reference your request is set out below and the Health Board's response follows.

### Your Freedom of Information (FOI) Request:

I am conducting a project examining variation in instrument tray composition for laparoscopic cholecystectomy procedures across NHS organisations, with a view to identifying opportunities for standardisation, efficiency improvement, and environmental sustainability.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would be grateful if you could provide the following information relating to laparoscopic cholecystectomy procedures performed within your Trust.

#### Q1. Procedure Volume

a. How many laparoscopic cholecystectomy procedures were performed within your Trust during the most recently completed financial year?

#### Q2. Instrument Tray Composition

a. Please provide the current instrument inventory list(s) for the standard laparoscopic cholecystectomy instrument tray(s) used within your Trust.

b. If more than one laparoscopic cholecystectomy tray configuration is used within the Trust, please provide the inventory list for each version.

c. Does the Trust use surgeon preference cards or procedure-specific pick lists for laparoscopic cholecystectomy? If yes, please provide any standard template used

d. Please indicate whether the inventory lists supplied represent:

- A standardised Trust-wide tray;
- Site-specific trays; or

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Ffôn: 01874 711661

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Brecon, Powys LD3 0LU  
Tel: 01874 711661

- Consultant/surgeon-specific trays.

### Q3. Tray Standardisation

Q3a. Does the Trust have a formal policy, guideline, or standard operating procedure relating to laparoscopic cholecystectomy instrument tray composition?

If yes, please provide a copy.

Q3b. Has the Trust undertaken any review, rationalisation, optimisation, or redesign of laparoscopic cholecystectomy instrument trays within the last five years?

If yes, please provide any reports, summaries, business cases, or recommendations that are held.

### Q4. Reusable and Disposable Instrumentation

a. Does the Trust routinely use reusable laparoscopic instruments for laparoscopic cholecystectomy?

b. Does the Trust routinely use disposable single-use laparoscopic instruments for laparoscopic cholecystectomy?

c. Please provide any existing inventory or documentation identifying which components are reusable and which are single-use.

d. Does the Trust routinely use disposable/single-use ports or reusable ports?

### Q5. Sterilisation and Tray Processing

a) How many instrument trays or sterilisation containers are routinely opened for a standard laparoscopic cholecystectomy procedure?

b) Are trays supplied in:

- Reusable rigid sterilisation containers;
- Sterile wrap systems; or
- Both?

### Q6. Sustainability Initiatives

a) Has the Trust undertaken any sustainability-related initiative specifically relating to surgical instrument trays, reusable instrumentation, waste reduction, or operating theatre environmental impact within the last five years?

If yes, please provide any reports, presentations, business cases, or policies held.

### Q7. Photographic or Layout Documentation

A. Does the Trust hold a tray map, instrument layout guide, tray photograph, or equivalent document for laparoscopic cholecystectomy trays?

If yes, please provide a copy.

### Q8. Sterilisation and Reprocessing Costs

a. Does the Trust hold information on the cost of sterilisation, decontamination, reprocessing, or preparation of laparoscopic cholecystectomy instrument trays?

If yes, please provide:

- The most recent estimated cost per tray sterilisation/reprocessing cycle.
- The methodology used to calculate this cost.
- The date of the most recent calculation.

Where information is not held in the exact format requested, I would be grateful for any equivalent recorded information that addresses the same topic.

I would be grateful if the information could be provided electronically where possible.

Powys Response:

Q1-Q7. Due to the rural and sparsely populated nature of Powys, we do not have District General Hospital (DGH) services within the county and do not carry out laparoscopic cholecystectomy procedures. Powys patients requiring this surgery would be referred to a neighbouring District General Hospital. I therefore recommend you contact them directly for the information requested. The table below lists the main health boards and NHS Trust from which we commission health services for Powys residents. Please note that all providers may not necessarily offer services that fall within the definition in your request.

| Health Trust/Organisation                                             | FOI Contact Details                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust                        | ghn-tr.foi@nhs.net                 |
| Midlands Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust                  | FOI@mpft.nhs.uk                    |
| The Robert Jones Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Foundation Trust | rjah.foi@nhs.net                   |
| Sandwell and West Birmingham NHS Trust                                | swb-tr.SWBH-GM-FOIRequests@nhs.net |
| The Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust                         | sath.foi@nhs.net                   |
| The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust                                     | rwh-tr.foi@nhs.net                 |
| Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust                              | wah-tr.FOI@nhs.net                 |
| Wye Valley NHS Trust                                                  | Freedom.Information@wvt.nhs.uk     |

| Health Board/Organisation                 | FOI Contact Details                   |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Aneurin Bevan University Health Board     | FOI.ABB@wales.nhs.uk                  |
| Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board   | bcu.foi@wales.nhs.uk                  |
| Cardiff & Vale University Health Board    | FOI.Requests@wales.nhs.uk             |
| Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board | CTM.FreedomOfInformation@wales.nhs.uk |
| Hywel Dda University Health Board         | FOI.hyweldda@wales.nhs.uk             |
| Swansea Bay University Health Board       | FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk            |
| Velindre University NHS Trust             | Foi.vunhst@wales.nhs.uk               |

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](http://www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints)

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

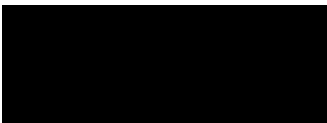
### **Re-use of Public Sector Information**

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.