

Our ref: IG/FOI/FOI.142.26

27 April 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 31 March 2026, following issue of our response FOI.101.26, 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. Please note PTHB hosts Health Care Research Wales (HCRW). 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):

To avoid any misunderstanding, I would like to clarify the distinction I am drawing. I am not questioning the adequacy of your processes or suggesting anything is being done incorrectly. My enquiry relates solely to the type of recorded assurance held by your organisation.

A certificate or report confirming that an erasure or sanitisation process was applied demonstrates that a recognised method was used. What I am seeking to understand is whether your organisation holds any recorded evidence of the outcome, namely evidence that the data on a specific storage device is irrecoverable following erasure or sanitisation, rather than confirmation that the process was executed.

With that distinction in mind, and noting your response that a Data Sanitisation Report is provided which confirms that storage devices have been rendered irrecoverable, please confirm:

Q1. Does the Data Sanitisation Report or related contractual documentation contain an explicit statement warranting or guaranteeing that the final data state of each specific storage device is irrecoverable, or does it confirm that a certified sanitisation process was followed in accordance with recognised standards?

The sanitisation report identifies that process was followed in line with recognised standards and allows us to identify the specific device.

Q2. Beyond reliance on the supplier's report, does your organisation hold any recorded, device specific documentation evidencing independent verification, testing, or validation that the data on the particular storage media processed has been rendered irrecoverable in practice?

For clarity, this request relates specifically to recorded outcome evidence demonstrating irrecoverability of data on the individual storage device, not documentation confirming that an accredited or certified method was applied.

I can confirm that Powys Teaching Health Board (PTHB) are solely dependent on the suppliers report and correlate against our IT asset inventory, however, this does not provide any additional validation. The report does record outcomes success/ failure of specific devices.

Q3. If no explicit outcome based warranty wording or device specific outcome evidence is held beyond confirmation of process completion, please confirm accordingly.

I am not seeking technical configuration detail, only clarification of the recorded assurance basis relied upon when concluding irrecoverability of the final data state.

Outcome is recorded in suppliers report.

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



Vicki Cooper
Chief Digital Data Officer

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.