



GIG  
CYMRU  
NHS  
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Bae Abertawe  
Swansea Bay University  
Health Board

Cadeirydd/Chair: **Emma Woollett**  
Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive: **Tracy Myhill**

**gofalu am ein gilydd, cydweithio, gwella bob amser**  
**caring for each other, working together, always improving**

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg ac yn y Saesneg. We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

Dyddiad/Date: 6<sup>th</sup> October 2020  
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 20-I-003

☎ 01639 648363

✉ FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk

[REDACTED]

Corporate Services  
Headquarters  
1 Talbot Gateway  
Baglan  
Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

Dear [REDACTED],

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act Request acknowledged by ourselves on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2020. Your request sought information relating to elective surgery waiting lists.

The Covid-19 pandemic has caused huge disruption to NHS services, not just in Swansea Bay but across the UK. As with all health organisations, we had to suspend non-emergency services and appointments so our hospitals did not become overwhelmed while we cared for those seriously ill with the virus.

Inevitably this has affected waiting times as it has done with all other health boards. Clearly this is not something any of us would have wanted and we are extremely conscious of the potential consequences for patients. Since the start of the pandemic we have continued to care for those requiring urgent treatment.

Our hard-working staff have also come up with innovative solutions to protect services, adapt services to continue recognising the existence of the virus and introduce new ones specifically as a result of the virus – there are numerous examples on our website. As it has become safe and appropriate to do so we have reintroduced many services, often with changes in place to protect patients and staff.

Please note that we have used the position at the end of each requested month.

**1. The number of patients in your health board area who are currently on the waiting list for an elective surgery. (If possible please also provide the number who have been waiting longer than the 36 weeks, as set out in the Welsh government's referral to treatment times guidelines.)**



Pencadlys BIP Bae Abertawe, Un Porthfa Talbot, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR / Swansea Bay UHB Headquarters, One Talbot Gateway, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Bae Abertawe yw enw gweithredu Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Bae Abertawe  
Swansea Bay University Health Board is the operational name of Swansea Bay University Local Health Board

As at 31/08/2020

<b>Weeks wait</b>	<b>Patients</b>
<36 weeks	5,511
>=36 weeks	10,686
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,197</b>

- 2. The number of patients in your health board area who were on the waiting list for an elective surgery immediately prior to the pause in non-emergency medical treatments because of the Covid-19 pandemic. (If possible please also provide the number who have been waiting longer than the 36 weeks, as set out in the Welsh government's referral to treatment times guidelines.)**

As at 29/02/2020

<b>Weeks wait</b>	<b>Patients</b>
<36 weeks	11,018
>=36 weeks	4,852
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,870</b>

- 3. The number of patients in your health board area who were on the waiting list for an elective surgery as of September 2019. (If possible please also provide the number who have been waiting longer than the 36 weeks, as set out in the Welsh government's referral to treatment times guidelines.)**

As at 30/09/2019

<b>Weeks wait</b>	<b>Patients</b>
<36 weeks	11,145
>=36 weeks	3,196
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,341</b>

I hope this information is helpful. If you require anything further please contact us at [FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk).

Under the terms of the Health Board's Freedom of Information policy, individuals seeking access to recorded information held by the Health Board are entitled to request internal review of the handling of their requests. If you would like to complain about the Health Board's handling of your request please contact me directly at the address below or register your complaint via [FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk).



If after Internal Review you remain dissatisfied you are also entitled to refer the matter to the information commissioner at the Information Commissioner's Office (Wales), 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Churchill House, Churchill Way, Cardiff, CF10 2HH. Telephone Number: 029 2067 8400.

Yours sincerely



Pam Wenger  
**Director of Corporate Governance**

