



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University
Health Board

Cadeirydd/Chair: **Emma Woollett**
Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive: **Mark Hackett**

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

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg. Atebir gohebiaeth Gymraeg yn y Gymraeg, ac ni fydd hyn yn arwain at oedi.
We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English. Welsh language correspondence will be replied to in Welsh, and this will not lead to a delay.

Cais Rhyddid Gwybodaeth / Freedom of Information request **Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 22-I-037**

Please note that the Health Board is carrying out significant work around recruitment generally and has a dedicated area on its website for nurse recruitment:

<https://sbuhb.nhs.wales/working-for-us/jobs/band-5-nurse>. Within this area of the website the Health Board has details of vacancies, up-coming recruitment days, contact information and short videos (developed in-house) advertising the benefits of working for SBU and interviews with staff. As well as emphasising the career and learning opportunities offered by being part of such a large NHS organisation, we actively promote the great work-life balance that living in Swansea and South West Wales offers, including affordable housing, our beaches, countryside, etc.

The Health Board is also boosting nurse staffing levels by recruiting international nurses from overseas. You can find information on our latest cohort here:

<https://sbuhb.nhs.wales/news/swansea-bay-health-news/latest-recruits-arrive-as-health-board-aims-to-more-than-double-workforce-of-new-nurses/>

You asked:

- 1. With regard to the Nurse Staffing Levels (Wales) Act 2016, in the last 12 months how many times did Section 25B wards in hospitals within your health board area drop below calculated nurse staffing levels?**

I can confirm that the information you are seeking is held on our website. Under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act (information accessible by other means), we are not required to provide information in response to a request if the information is already reasonably accessible to you. The Health Board regularly reports on nurse staffing levels during the year in May and November. Our latest report was submitted to Board in May 2022 <https://sbuhb.nhs.wales/about-us/key-documents-folder/board-papers/board-papers-may-2022/> (Item 2.3 on agenda)

- 2. How many DATIX reports were recorded in the last 12 months that expressed concern regarding nurse staffing levels?**

The Health Board encourages nursing and midwifery staff to report any incidents via its online system Datix, where they feel that nurse staffing levels were a significant matter. During May 2018 the Datix fields were amended in relation to



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

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Swansea Bay University Health Board is the operational name of Swansea Bay University Local Health Board

the Nurse Staffing Act, however these fields do not satisfy the full validation methodology necessary to verify if there has been a breach in the Nurse Staffing Act. Further work is being undertaken on an All Wales basis to develop an appropriate and consistent system for validation to monitor compliance with the Nurse Staffing Act.

I can confirm total number of incidents recorded expressing concern with nurse staffing levels is 478 between 01/09/21 and 31/08/22. This is the number of incidents reported where staff 'believed' that the Nurse Staffing Act had not been met. These figures cannot be validated as per our comments above.

