



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University
Health Board

Cadeirydd Dros Dro/ Interim 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: 8th November 2019
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 19-J-019

☎ 01639 648363

✉ FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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

[REDACTED]

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act Request acknowledged by ourselves on 15th October 2019. Your request sought information relating to home births.

How many of your patients arrange to have home births? You confirmed that you didn't want the figures where a home birth took place out of necessity. You only required the numbers where mothers had arranged to have their baby delivered at home prior to the birth.

Are you able to provide the data since 2014? If so, can you please divide the data per year up to 2019, and provide the percentage vs the full amount of births under your health board. (e.g. 3% of our recorded births were home births).

Please note that when a woman contacts her midwife to advise she thinks she is in labour, a midwife undertakes a home assessment. If at this time the woman indicates she wishes to birth at home, she is considered to be a planned home birth and this is reflected in the figures below.

There was a change in Maternity software during 2014 therefore the data for 2014 is incomplete and not included.

2015 – 3.5% (216 individuals) gave birth at home

2016 – 3.2% (191 individuals) gave birth at home

2017 – 3.05% (179 individuals) gave birth at home

2018 – 3.44% (199 individuals) gave birth at home



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

If you are also able to reveal how many of these home births resulted in hospital visitations either during or after the birth that would also be very useful.

To obtain this information would involve a manual trawl and search of records which we have estimated would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI Act as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOI Act provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

I hope this information is helpful. If you require anything further please contact us at 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.

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), 2nd Floor, Churchill House, Churchill Way, Cardiff, CF10 2HH. Telephone Number: 029 2067 8400.

Yours sincerely



Pam Wenger
Director of Corporate Governance

