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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: 28th August 2020
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 20-F-013

☎ 01639 648363
✉ FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk

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

Dear

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act Request acknowledged by ourselves on 11th June 2020. Your request sought information relating to COVID-19 and care homes.

1. How many care homes have been infected with COVID-19 in your area since 11 March 2020?

Public Health Wales (PHW) have statutory responsibility for managing outbreaks in care homes and will hold this information.

2. How many domiciliary, social care and care home workers are registered in your area?

Swansea Bay Health Board does not hold this information. Care workers are not employed by the Health Board.

3. How many domiciliary, social care and care home workers have been tested for COVID-19 in your area up to 11 June 2020?

Swansea Bay Health Board does not hold this information by job role. However, we can confirm that as part of the Welsh Government programme to test all care home residents and staff, 2996 care home staff have been tested as of 26th June 2020.

4. Are asymptomatic domiciliary, social care and care home workers tested in your area?



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

All care home staff (both symptomatic and asymptomatic) have been tested as per Welsh Government guidelines for testing in residential care settings - when 'whole home' testing has been undertaken. All other key workers are advised to get a test if they develop COVID-19 symptoms.

Within the Swansea Bay area, anyone from the above categories who display COVID-19 symptoms can access testing.

5. Are domiciliary, social care and care home workers able to book direct with all drive-through testing centres in your area – please also provide the names of the ones where they are unable to do so?

Yes - access to the drive-through Testing Units is booked via a call centre, so key workers are able to book their tests directly. We have 2 testing centres available.

Key workers with COVID-19 symptoms are also able to book through the UK Government's online portal for either a drive-through test at the Margam testing unit, or a self-testing kit for home delivery.

6. When individuals or employers are applying for tests through your local authority or health board, are care homes notified of when they can test their staff and, if not, why not?

Testing is available in line with Welsh Government protocol and policy. Since the initial programme of testing in care homes was completed, Welsh Government have been providing a weekly testing programme to all care homes staff across Wales. Care homes are offered weekly tests for their staff via an online portal. Care home managers arrange for these tests to be delivered and actioned for their staff.

Outside this programme, if staff members have any COVID-19 symptoms they are advised to self-isolate and access a test as outlined in our response to question 5 above. Staff have a duty to inform their employer of the result. In case of a positive test, the care home outbreak protocol is instituted which mandates whole home testing of staff and residents with follow-up testing of negative individuals one week later.

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

