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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 ac yn y Saesneg. We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

Dyddiad/Date: 17th February 2021
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 21-A-024

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

██████████
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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 15th January 2021. 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, during the first wave we suspended 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 was not something any of us would have wanted and we were extremely conscious of the potential consequences for patients.

Since the start of the pandemic we have continued to care for those requiring urgent treatment, and following the first wave we reintroduced many of our services and have done our best to keep disruption to a minimum throughout the second wave, often with change in place to protect patients and staff, but continuing to provide as much planned care as possible.

Our hard-working staff have supported this by coming 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.

Please note that from 1st April 2019 responsibility for providing healthcare services for



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

people in the Bridgend County Borough Council area transferred from Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board to Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board. In light of this change to ABMU's responsibilities, the organisation's name has changed to Swansea Bay University Health Board. However as this response asks for data prior to 1st April 2019, we have provided the information that ABMU Health Board held which will include Bridgend data.

- 1. How many people do you have waiting for elective surgery;**
- 2. How many have been waiting for;**
 - (i) 6 months or more**
 - (ii) 12 months or more**
 - (iii) 18 months or more**

if possible can we have a breakdown of how many people are waiting for different types of treatment - (i) hip, knee, shoulder replacement (ii) non-urgent eye surgery (iii) bariatric treatment (iv) sports injuries

For the general total number waiting for elective surgery and the 6, 12 and 18 month sub-groups – can we have a comparative figure for January 2016, Jan 2017, Jan 2018, Jan 2019, Jan 2020 and July 2020.

You clarified on 8th February 2021 that you would like the information split by organisation – ABMU Health Board up until April 2019 and SBU Health Board from April 2019 onwards.

Please find attached a breakdown of surgical specialties waiting lists split by specialty and waiting time. We are not able to split by type of treatment as these are divided between various different procedures within each specialty.

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

