



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

Dyddiad/Date: 30<sup>th</sup> July 2021  
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 21-F-041

☎ 01639 648363

✉ FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk

[REDACTED]

Corporate Services  
Headquarters  
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Baglan  
Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

[REDACTED]

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act Request acknowledged by ourselves on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2021. Your request sought information relating to the use of independent hospitals during COVID-19.

**1. Did you have an agreement with independent hospitals to cover non-COVID 19 treatments during the first year of the pandemic and, if so, which providers did you have an agreement with?**

Yes, the Health Board did directly commission treatment for Radiotherapy patients at the Rutherford Cancer Centre.

Also during the first year of the pandemic (2020/21), WHSSC (Welsh Health Specialist Services Committee) entered into agreements with 6 independent providers on behalf of Welsh Health Boards to access acute capacity. Under the terms of this agreement SBUHB was able to make use of this capacity.

**2. Do you have a current agreement with independent hospitals to cover treatment backlogs following the publication of the Welsh Government's COVID-19: Looking Forward document in March and, if so, which providers do you have an agreement with?**

I can confirm that the Health Board has arrangements in place with the following organisations:

Sancta Maria Hospital  
Werndale Hospital  
Nuffield Health – The Vale Hospital  
Rutherford Cancer Centre



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

The Health Board is also continuing to negotiate with a number of other independent providers to access capacity, to address backlogs.

**3. If you have or had an agreement with independent hospitals to cover non-COVID 19, a breakdown of the costs of these agreements; you clarified on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2021, that this question is in relation to Q1.**

As per Q1, the Health Board did have one direct agreement in place to cover non-COVID 19 work during the financial year 2020/21 with Rutherford Cancer Centre. The cost of this was £428,000.

**4. If possible, a breakdown of the number of NHS treatments in your Health Board which have been placed through independent hospitals between March 2020 and March 2021 and the top three specialties; and**

Plastic Surgery – 82  
Urology – 21  
Trauma & Orthopaedics – 10  
Other – 9

**5. If possible, a breakdown of the number of NHS treatments in your health board which have been placed through independent hospitals between March 2021 and June 2021 and the top three specialties.**

Plastic Surgery – 31  
Ophthalmology – 14  
Trauma & Orthopaedics - 3

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**

