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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: 23rd June 2021
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 21-E-030

☎ 01639 648363

✉ FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk

[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 25th May 2021. Your request sought information relating to staff cases of COVID-19.

The Health Board is committed to supporting the health and wellbeing of its staff. The Board has achieved the Gold Corporate Health Standard for workplace health promotion. Among the services available are confidential counselling for staff experiencing problems affecting their day to day lives; impartial occupational health advice about work-related health issues; stress management courses; and health and wellbeing events and activities.

Health Board specialists also deliver Wellbeing through Work programme. This supports working people – not just employees – to remain in or return to employment when they have issues that could affect their ability to do their job.

It is also worth noting that most of our staff give direct patient care and naturally work in an environment where there is a large number of infectious gastrointestinal and respiratory viral illnesses present, and unfortunately this leads to some staff who care for patients themselves becoming ill.

We do, however, carry out a significant annual staff influenza vaccination programme to reduce the risk of flu among our staff, and staff are receive training to deliver high standards of hand hygiene and infection control to minimise the risks of other illnesses spreading, both among patients and themselves.

As well as this, we have various COVID-19 wellbeing resources for both staff and the public alike available via our intranet and website. This includes a COVID-19 and Long COVID Recovery therapy information pack which is available to download from our



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

website, as well as the All Wales COVID-19 and Long COVID Recovery App. There is also advice on coping and accessing mental health support during the pandemic, as well as tips on symptom management and general health and social wellbeing during the pandemic.

You can find more information on our website;

<https://sbuhb.nhs.wales/recovery-wellbeing/about-recovery-wellbeing/covid-and-long-covid-recovery-therapy-information-pack/>

1. The total number of staff employed by Swansea Bay University Health Board as of May 17, 2021, all roles and positions included.

The total number of staff including permanent, fixed term, locum, bank and honorary staff is 16,500 individuals.

2. The total number of confirmed cases of Covid-19 among staff members at the health board between March 1, 2020 and May 17, 2021.

There have been 2,319 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in staff members including permanent, fixed term, locum, bank and honorary staff in the specified time period. This is for both staff members that tested positive with us, or reported a positive test result.

3. A breakdown of the total number of confirmed Covid-19 cases among staff members by month (eg. 17 cases confirmed in March 2020, etc.)

Month	Number of Positive SBU Staff Cases
Mar-20	65
Apr-20	777
May-20	52
Jun-20	11
Jul-20	0
Aug-20	<5*
Sep-20	35
Oct-20	225
Nov-20	414
Dec-20	557
Jan-21	122
Feb-21	45
Mar-21	10
Apr-21	<5*
May-21	0

* Where fewer than 5 has been indicated we are unable to provide you with the exact number of patients as due to the low numbers, there is a potential risk of identifying individuals if this was disclosed. We are therefore withholding this detail under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This information is protected by the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018 and



its disclosure would be contrary to the data protection principles and constitute as unfair and unlawful processing in regard to Articles 5, 6, and 9 of GDPR. This exemption is absolute and therefore there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.

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

