

Reference:	FOI.1593.19
Subject:	District nurses
Date of Request:	17 September 2019

Requested

1. Who are district nurses answerable to - the Health Board or the GP?
2. How many district nurses are currently on rota within your health board area - both FT and PT?
3. What is the chain of command with regard to district nurses working in GP clusters?
4. What procedures do district nurses have to follow when responding to emergency care in their area?
5. Can individual GPs and surgeries ask for district nurses to attend emergency care?

Response

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) employ and manage all district nurses both professionally and operationally.

2. Please see table below for the number of district nurses currently on rota within the UHB:

RNs F/T – Registered Nurses - Full Time
 RNs P/T – Registered Nurses – Part Time
 SPQs – Specialist Practitioner Qualification

	RNs F/T	RNs P/T	SPQs	Training
Carmarthenshire	55	74	18	6
Ceredigion	37	21	12	6
Pembrokeshire	41	28	21	5

3. The UHBs district nurses report to the clinical/locality lead nurses who report to the Head of Nursing who are managed by the individual County Directors.
4. The UHB's district nurse service is not an emergency response and would advise anyone in an emergency situation to dial 999. If district nurses are asked to attend an emergency call (that is within the remit of the service) they would follow the usual referral process. If there was an emergency when attending a call, the district nurse would contact 999 for support.
5. The district nurses in the UHB work very closely with the GPs and endeavour to prioritise any requests for visits. However, the district nurse service is not an emergency service and an immediate response cannot be guaranteed.