

<b>Reference:</b>	FOI.19611.26
<b>Subject:</b>	Maternity Services
<b>Date of Request:</b>	17 February 2026

**Requested:**

Follow up request:

I wish to know how many deaths of the child not the mother.

**FOI.19371.25:**

I hereby request the following information in relation to maternity care provided at Glangwili General Hospital (maternity unit) for the following period: 1 January 2000 to present date.

1. The total number of maternal deaths that occurred at Glangwili General Hospital linked to Caesarean section procedures (both elective and emergency), including deaths during or within 30 days after the procedure.

For each such death, please provide:

- a. The year in which it occurred.
- b. Whether the Caesarean section was elective or emergency.
- c. The reported cause of death (for example, surgical complication, haemorrhage, anaesthetic complication, infection, pulmonary embolism, etc.).
- d. Any internal or external investigation outcome related to the death (e.g., Serious Incident Review, Ombudsman findings).
- e. Whether the Health Board publishes any statistics or reports on maternal mortality and C-section outcomes (and if so, links to those reports or copies of the latest reports).

**Clarified:**

Directly related to a c section

**Response:**

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with all the information requested, as it is estimated that the cost of answering your request would exceed the "appropriate limit" as stated in the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. The "appropriate limit" represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours (or 2½ working days) in determining whether the UHB holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

During the requested time period of 1 January 2000 to present date, incident information is captured across four (4) different systems including paper-based records, therefore the information is not centrally recorded and easily accessible. To identify any information to fulfil your request, the UHB would be required to undertake a manual search of all incident reports recorded for the time period 1 January 2000 to the date of your request, and in doing so the UHB anticipates that it will exceed the 18 hour 'appropriate limit' to fulfil your request.

The UHB is therefore applying an exemption under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA), which provides an exemption from a public authority's obligation to comply with a request for information where the cost of compliance is estimated to exceed the appropriate limit.

However, under Section 16 of the FoIA, we are required as a public authority, to provide advice and assistance so far as it is reasonable to individuals who have made a request under the FoIA, this can include assisting a requestor to further refine their request.

Unfortunately, the UHB is unable to provide advice on how you can refine your request due to the UHB still requiring a manual trawl of incident reports to be undertaken for the period 1 January 2000 to the date of your request, to identify any of the information requested.

Under section 16 of the FoIA, the UHB has a duty to provide advice and assistance and provides within the table below, the number of child deaths that occurred in Glangwili General Hospital (GGH) for any reason, as recorded across all four (4) electronic systems, during the period 1 January 2002 to 18 February 2026.

<b>Period</b>	<b>Number</b>
1 January 2002 to 31 March 2009	0
1 April 2009 to 31 March 2015	4
1 April 2015 to 31 March 2021	6
1 April 2021 to 18 February 2026	8

Please note: even though child deaths are recorded in the Datix Incident and Risk reporting system, the detail of the death i.e. directly linked to a caesarean section, is not captured.

As the cause of death and any contributing factors is determined by the coroner, who is appointed by the Local Authority (LA), we therefore recommend that you contact the Freedom of Information Teams within each LA in the UHB's footprint, who may be able to help you with your enquiry. Their contact details are set out below:

- Information & Data Protection Officer, Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall, Carmarthen, SA31 1JP or by email [foia@carmarthenshire.gov.uk](mailto:foia@carmarthenshire.gov.uk)
- Complaints & Freedom of Information Team, Ceredigion County Council, Canolfan Rheidol, Rhodfa Padarn, Llanbadarn Fawr, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23 3UE or by email [foi@ceredigion.gov.uk](mailto:foi@ceredigion.gov.uk)
- Information Governance Team, Pembrokeshire County Council, County Hall, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA61 1TP or by email [FOI@pembrokeshire.gov.uk](mailto:FOI@pembrokeshire.gov.uk)