

<b>Reference:</b>	FOI.20192.26
<b>Subject:</b>	Maternity students and vacancies
<b>Date of Request:</b>	13 April 2026

**Requested:**

I would like to ask, as a FOI request, for each maternity unit in your trust -

1. What is the name of your maternity unit?
2. How many 3rd year midwifery students do you have doing their clinical placement in your maternity unit, this academic year 2025-6?
3. How many vacancies do you expect to have for newly qualified midwives in September 2026?
4. How many vacancies do you expect to have in September - December 2026 for newly qualified midwives?
5. What communications have you sent to your 3rd year midwifery students to inform them about expected job opportunities when they qualify?
6. If and when there are vacancies for newly qualified midwives, are midwives who trained at your trust/unit automatically offered a job without an interview / guaranteed an interview / not guaranteed a job nor an interview?
7. How many Band 5 newly qualified midwives have been recruited in your unit since September 2025?
8. How many of those are on permanent contracts?
9. How many of those are on short-term contracts?
10. How many of those are full-time?
11. How many of those are part-time?

**Response:**

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) has two (2) Obstetric Led Units alongside Midwife Led Units (MLU), based in Dinefwr Ward at Glangwili General Hospital (GGH) and Gwenllian Ward at Bronglais General Hospital (BGH). The UHB also has a freestanding MLU in Withybush General Hospital (WGH) and community midwives.  
All newly qualified Midwives are initially appointed to Dinefwr Ward, GGH to fulfil their competencies within the first twelve (12) months of service.
2. The UHB confirms that it has twelve (12) third year students doing their clinical placement in its maternity service, during the period 1 September 2025 to 13 April 2026.
3. & 4. The UHB does not hold the requested information as the Whole Time Equivalent (WTE) availability for Midwives qualifying in September 2026 has not been finalised.

The WTE will be shared with all students eligible for the Student Streamlining Process (SSP) on 11 May 2026.

5. The UHB has not issued any formal correspondence to its Midwifery students due to qualify in September 2026. However, correspondence to students eligible for SSP is usually sent directly via Health Education and Improvement Wales (HEIW) or NHS Wales Shared Service Partnership (NWSSP).

Therefore, you may wish to re-direct this part of your request to the Freedom of information Teams in HEIW and NWSSP who may be able to assist you further. Contact details are as follows:

[HEIW.foi@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:HEIW.foi@wales.nhs.uk) or alternatively in writing to: Freedom of Information Office, Health Education and Improvement Wales, Tŷ Dysgu, Cefn Coed, Nantgarw, CF15 7QQ.

[shared.services@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:shared.services@wales.nhs.uk) or alternatively in writing to: NWSSP, Information Governance Manager, 4-5 Charnwood Court, Heol Billingsley, Parc Nantgarw, Cardiff, CF15 7QZ.

6. The UHB confirms that there is no interview process as part of the Student Streamlining Process (SSP) since its inception during 2016. The SSP is coordinated by NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership (NWSSP). Further information on the SSP is available on NWSSPs website. A link to the relevant webpage has been provided below:

[Student Streamlining Scheme - NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership](#)

7. The UHB confirms that thirteen (13) newly qualified Midwives were recruited, during the period 1 September 2025 to 13 April 2026.
8. All thirteen (13) newly qualified Midwives recruited were appointed on a permanent contract.
9. None of the thirteen (13) newly qualified Midwives recruited were appointed on a short-term contract.
10. At the time of appointment, none of the thirteen (13) newly qualified Midwives were employed on a full-time basis of 37.5 hours per week.
11. At the time of appointment, all thirteen (13) of the newly qualified Midwives were employed on a part-time basis.