

<b>Reference:</b>	FOI.16074.24
<b>Subject:</b>	Minor Injuries Unit (MIU), Prince Philip Hospital (PPH)
<b>Date of Request:</b>	26 November 2024

**Requested:**

Please will you inform me as to the extent of any research carried out prior to the closure decision. E.g. Patient Health & Safety issues, Feasibility study, etc.

Please will you inform me as to the effects this closure may be having on A & E Departments at Glangwili and Morryston.

**Response:**

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is applying an exemption under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA), as some of this information is already in the public domain and is accessible by another means.

The information requested was presented and discussed at the UHB's Board meetings on 26 September and 28 November 2024. A link to the UHB's Board meeting webpage has been provided below.

[Board meetings 2024 - Hywel Dda University Health Board](#)

Additionally, for ease of reference, please click on the links below, which will take you directly to the Board meeting papers for agenda item 3.7 Proposed Overnight Closure Prince Philip Hospital Minor Injury Unit and agenda item 3.8 Philip Hospital Minor Injury Unit Update.

26 September 2024 Board meeting - Item 3.7:

[hduhb.nhs.wales/about-us/your-health-board/board-meetings-2024/board-agenda-and-papers-26-september-2024/board-agenda-and-papers-26-september-2024/3-7-proposed-overnight-closure-prince-philip-hospital-minor-injury-unit-pdf/](https://hduhb.nhs.wales/about-us/your-health-board/board-meetings-2024/board-agenda-and-papers-26-september-2024/board-agenda-and-papers-26-september-2024/3-7-proposed-overnight-closure-prince-philip-hospital-minor-injury-unit-pdf/)

28 November 2024 Board meeting - Item 3.8:

[hduhb.nhs.wales/about-us/your-health-board/board-meetings-2024/board-agenda-and-papers-28-november-2024/board-agenda-and-papers-28-november-2024/3-8-prince-philip-hospital-minor-injury-unit-update-pdf/](https://hduhb.nhs.wales/about-us/your-health-board/board-meetings-2024/board-agenda-and-papers-28-november-2024/board-agenda-and-papers-28-november-2024/3-8-prince-philip-hospital-minor-injury-unit-update-pdf/)

Additionally, the UHB has considered that the information relating to the effects that the reduced operating hours of MIU in PPH is having on Accident and Emergency (A&E) Departments at Glangwili General Hospital (GGH) and Morryston Hospital is exempt under Section 22 of the FoIA. This states that information is exempt if it is intended that the information held by the public authority will be published at a future date.

This exemption is qualified and therefore, if information falls within Section 22, public authorities must apply a public interest test. The information can only be withheld if the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

The UHB has therefore considered the following:

**In favour of disclosure:** There is a public interest in the UHB being open and transparent. MIU in PPH is a popular topic of discussion, with a significant amount of public interest. Due to the interest in the topic, it is within everyone's interests that information is shared and that the public be kept informed of developments, to reduce anxieties within our communities.

**Against Disclosure:** The information being requested is to be assessed over coming months and disclosure at this time could lead to anxiety in communities. The UHB has to ensure it has appropriate time to consider the impact and issues arising from the temporary service change; and to ensure there is appropriate time to consider and evaluate the options. It is the UHB's opinion that providing information before it has been fully assessed and evaluated could cause the public's anxieties to be exacerbated, which in turn, could harm the UHB's relationship with its communities.

**Decision:** The UHB considers that the public interest in withholding the requested information at this time is greater than the interest in disclosing it, as the attention drawn from the disclosure could cause harm to the UHB and it is therefore applying a Section 22 exemption.

The UHB has commenced collating data regarding the impact on A&E Departments in GGH and Morriston Hospital, and the findings are expected to be presented at the Board meeting on 27 March 2025. A link to the UHB's Board meeting dates can be accessed via the link below:

[Board meetings 2025 - Hywel Dda University Health Board](#)