

Reference:	FOI.9568.22
Subject:	Out of office communications and public documents
Date of Request:	2 August 2022

Requested:

1. I am not aware of HDUHB Executive directors' holiday entitlement. The date of Karen Miles depart from HDUHB (FOI8844, FOI 8818) does not correlate with the date of the HDUHB first person singular reply to my email dated 5 March 2021. Karen Miles could not have left her HDUHB employment in October 2020 and still be on holiday in March 2021. If Karen Miles did not write the reply to my email dated 5th March 2021 then the content of the reply is at best misleading, at worst false; if it is the latter I refer you to HDUHB Counter Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Policy. It is my understanding that forensic electronic investigation and the unique property of each computer IP (Internet Protocol) number would confirm who sent the mail reply to my email dated 5th March 2021.
2. Would Hywel Dda University Health Board (HDUHB) please confirm that the minutes of all Hywel Dda Health Board (HDHB) and Hywel Dda University Health Board (HDUHB) board meetings are public documents?
3. Would HDUHB please confirm that 'Annual Reports and Accounts' of Pembrokeshire Local Health Board, Ceredigion Local Health Board, Hywel Dda Health Board (HDHB) and Hywel Dda University Health Board (HDUHB) are public documents?
4. Would HDUHB please confirm that the correspondence log regarding the removal and use of 2000+ patient records commenced in 2007 by Pembrokeshire Health Board (PHB) officers, continues by Hywel Dda Health Board (HDHB) officers and finalised by Hywel Dda University Health Board (HDUHB) officers, is available as evidence of the correct protocols and processes regarding sensitive person identifiable information (SPII)?

Response:

1. Having asked the IT Department to review Mrs Miles' email account, I can confirm that her account is not active and was deactivated following her departure from Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB). As with any senior leadership role within the UHB, upon leaving employment the account is suspended rather than removed, to aid any information searches that may be required, such as for the COVID-19 Public Inquiry. The automatic response you received had been implemented by Mrs Miles during her employment with the UHB and has since been left in place, to ensure that any emails sent in error to Mrs Miles can be redirected to an appropriate party.
2. & 3. As this information is already within the public domain, the UHB has applied an exemption under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA), as the information is accessible by another means. The UHB operates in accordance with the Standing Orders placed upon it by Welsh Government, a copy of which is accessible via the UHB's website. For ease, a link to the document is provided below.

[LHB Model Standing Orders Reservation and Delegation of Powers - 25 March 2021 v5 Final \(nhs.wales\)](#)

4. As was previously explained to you in FOI/342/18, the UHB is bound by the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 to hold all evidence in a secure manner. All activities undertaken by the Counter Fraud Team in relation to the patient records cards were carried out in accordance with statutory duties.