

<b>Reference:</b>	FOI.1726.19
<b>Subject:</b>	Vaginal births after caesarean section (VBAC) in Glangwili General Hospital
<b>Date of Request:</b>	16 October 2019

**Requested**

Please can you disclose the number of successful VBACs within Glangwili Hospital? Can this be from 2015 to date.

Could this also be broken down to how many were successful at;

- a) MLU
- b) Labour Ward

**Response:**

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with all of the information requested as it is estimated that the cost of answering your request would exceed the “appropriate level” as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004. The “appropriate level” represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours or (2 ½ working days) in determining whether the UHB holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

In order to provide you with the requested information, the UHB would need to manually scrutinise all maternity notes for the 2015 and 2016 calendar years. Within these years, 6,604 women birthed in one of the UHB’s hospitals, it is therefore estimated that completing this part of your request would cost:

6,604 women @ 15 minutes per set of maternity notes = 1,651 hours  
 1,651 hours @ £25 per hours = £41,275

The UHB is therefore applying an exemption under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI), 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.

Under section 16 of the FOI, 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 FOI and therefore can provide you with some of the information requested.

The UHB has therefore provided you with the number of attempted and successful VBACs at Glangwili General Hospital, along with the success rate recorded between 1 January 2017 and 30 September 2019 within the table below:

Year	Attempted VBACs	Successful VBACs	Success Rate
2017	116	81	70%
2018	149	89	61%
2019	128	86	67%