

<b>Reference:</b>	FOI.10800.23
<b>Subject:</b>	Waiting time to receive a twenty four (24) hour Electrocardiogram (ECG)
<b>Date of Request:</b>	27 January 2023

**Requested:**

We would be grateful if you could assist us by confirming in June 2020 had a referral been made to Bronglais Hospital what would have been the waiting time to receive a 24 Hour ECG at that time?

**Response:**

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with 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 and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. The “appropriate limit” 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 all of the information being requested, the UHB would need to undertake a manual search of all referrals for an ECG that were received, to identify the waiting times recorded during June 2020.

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.

Therefore, the UHB confirms that it adheres to the Welsh Government (WG) target for the completion of cardiology diagnostics within eight (8) weeks of referral. This is achieved for 24 hour monitors in the majority of cases, although there are occasions when the twenty four (24) hour timeframe is exceeded.