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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Cwm Taf Morgannwg
University Health Board



Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_376_25

You asked:

I wish to submit the following Freedom of Information Requests to your organisation:

The FoI search should cover the last 12 months only.

Below is Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board's response to the questions set out in the freedom of information request.

1. Please could you provide me with a copy of the original data and impact assessment used to prepare your response to the Welsh Government's review of the smacking ban?

CTMUHB are unfortunately unable to locate this information. This may have been provided as a partner to the Regional Safeguarding Board and therefore reported to Welsh Government through the Cwm Taf Morgannwg Safeguarding Board. Therefore, you may wish to redirect your request to [Contact Us | Safeguarding, Cwm Taf Morgannwg](#).

2. Please could you provide me with a copy of all correspondence from the Welsh Government relating to the request for data/evidence and what should and should be included?

CTMUHB do not report data to Welsh Government in respect of physical chastisement.

3. Please can you provide me with all internal correspondence between member of the senior management relating to the smacking ban and its impact?

On the 15th of February 2022, CTMUHB received the below communication from Cwm Taf Morgannwg Safeguarding Board. This was shared throughout the organisation with managers via email.

Dear all,

21st March 2022 is a historic moment for children's rights in Wales. From this day on, physically punishing children will be illegal in Wales. For further information, please select the links below:

- [Ending physical punishment in Wales: explainer video](#)
- [Ending Physical Punishment in Wales: briefing note](#)
- [Ending physical punishment in Wales: background information](#)
- [The Cwm Taf Morgannwg Safeguarding Board's 7 minute briefing](#)

The 'All Wales Practice Guide: Safeguarding children in relation to the Children (Abolition of Defence of Reasonable Punishment) (Wales) Act 2020' has now been published (link below).

- [Social care Wales \(safeguarding.wales\)](https://safeguarding.wales)

The Out of Court Parenting Support Grant guidance has also been published on the Welsh Government website (link below)

- [Out of Court Parenting Support Grant: guidance | GOV.WALES](#)

In addition to this, a healthcare fact sheet (Attachment 1) was disseminated to colleagues across care groups through the Health Boards Safeguarding Operational Group on the 07th of June 2022 (Agenda - Attachment 2). This healthcare factsheet remains available on the health boards safeguarding SharePoint page.

4. Please can you provide me with copies of your organisation's guidance on dealing with complaints involving smacking?

CTMUHB do not have specific guidance for the management of complaints involving smacking. All concerns are processed through the NHS Wales complaints and concern process, Putting Things Right.

5. Please can you provide me with the number of reports your organisation has received relating to smacking involving either a) staff members or b) members of the public?

CTMUHB do not collect data specific to smacking. These reports would be included in those referrals categorised as physical abuse.

The Health Board have made 293 referrals in respect of physical abuse from July 2024 – June 2025. There have been *less than 5 for staff subject to section 5 of the Wales Safeguarding procedures, in respect of physical chastisement.

* Please note - Where the figures are less than 5, the exact figures have been withheld due to the low numbers involved.

Where numbers are low we have considered that there is the potential for the individuals to be identified from the information provided, when considered with other information that may also be in the public domain. Also, responses under the Freedom of Information Act are made available to the public at large. The data is classed as personal data as defined under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018 and its disclosure would be contrary to the data protection principles and constitute as unfair and unlawful processing in regard to Articles 5, 6, and 9 of GDPR. We are therefore withholding this detail under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This exemption is absolute and therefore there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.

6. Finally, please can you send copies of all internal emails from your communications/PR department to the senior management team relating to how to handle inquiries into smacking cases?

The Health Board's Communication/PR Team do not have any correspondence.