

Date: 1st July 2025
Ref: CORP 25/26 - 049

Dear xxx

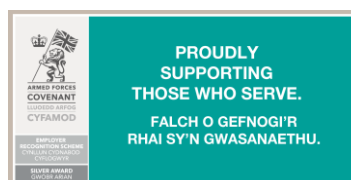
Freedom of Information request: Solar Energy Usage and Future Plans (CORP 25/26 – 049)

Thank you for your request for information which the Trust received on 9th June 2025.

Your Request:

1. *Governance & Responsibility*
 - a. *Do you have a dedicated person or team responsible for solar energy investment and/or sustainability energy initiatives within your organisation?*
 - b. *If so, please provide their role/title (personal names are not required).*
2. *Current Solar Deployment*
 - a. *How many solar panel installations (PV systems) do you currently operate across your estate?*
 - b. *What is the total installed capacity of these systems (in kWp)?*
 - c. *What proportion of your organisation's energy usage is currently provided by solar generation?*
3. *Investment & Strategy*
 - a. *Does your organisation have a documented investment strategy for expanding the use of solar panels or increasing on-site renewable energy generation?*
 - b. *If so, please provide a copy of or link to the relevant strategy or plan (or summarise key points if not published).*
4. *Solar and Net Zero Commitments*
 - a. *Does solar energy form part of your organisation's Net Zero / Carbon Reduction Strategy?*
 - b. *If yes, how is progress against this strategy communicated to the public (e.g. via website, reports, dashboards, etc.)?*
5. *Future Plans*
 - a. *Are there any planned solar panel projects or expansions within the next 3 years? If yes, please provide high-level details (e.g. number of sites, scale of deployment, approximate timescales).*
 - b. *Have you conducted any feasibility studies on increasing solar capacity in the past 3 years? If so, can these be shared?*

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Velindre University NHS Trust is happy to receive communication in Welsh or English.



6. Procurement & Partnerships

- Does your organisation currently use any third-party companies or frameworks to deliver solar energy solutions or manage installations? If yes, which ones?
- Are there any upcoming procurement exercises planned relating to solar energy or wider renewable energy solutions?

7. Battery Storage

- Do you currently use battery storage alongside your solar panels?
- Are there plans to invest in battery storage in future?

8. Funding

- Has your organisation accessed or applied for any external funding to support solar energy projects (e.g. SALIX, Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, LEP funding)?

9. Barriers

- What are the main barriers your organisation faces to further adoption of solar energy (e.g. funding, planning restrictions, roof suitability, internal resource)?

Please find the Trust's response below:

1. Governance & Responsibility

- Do you have a dedicated person or team responsible for solar energy investment and/or sustainability energy initiatives within your organisation? - Yes
- If so, please provide their role/title (personal names are not required). – Sustainability Manager / Energy and Environment Officer.

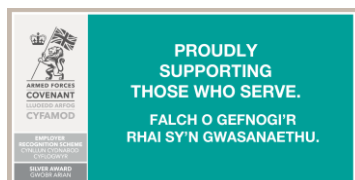
2. Current Solar Deployment

- How many solar panel installations (PV systems) do you currently operate across your estate? - None
- What is the total installed capacity of these systems (in kWp)? – N/A
- What proportion of your organisation's energy usage is currently provided by solar generation? – N/A

3. Investment & Strategy

- Does your organisation have a documented investment strategy for expanding the use of solar panels or increasing on-site renewable energy generation? - Yes
- If so, please provide a copy of or link to the relevant strategy or plan (or summarise key points if not published). – <https://velindre.nhs.wales/about-us/publications/strategic-documentation/sustainability-excellence-our-strategy-2023-2033/>

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4. Solar and Net Zero Commitments

- a. **Does solar energy form part of your organisation's Net Zero / Carbon Reduction Strategy?** - Yes
- b. **If yes, how is progress against this strategy communicated to the public (e.g. via website, reports, dashboards, etc.)?** - These are communicated within our annual reports and information is routinely published on our website.

5. Future Plans

- a. **Are there any planned solar panel projects or expansions within the next 3 years? If yes, please provide high-level details (e.g. number of sites, scale of deployment, approximate timescales).** - Yes
- b. **Have you conducted any feasibility studies on increasing solar capacity in the past 3 years? If so, can these be shared?** – Yes, feasibility assessments have been undertaken as part of ongoing strategic business case developments. We cannot share these at this time and are withholding Section 43(2) Freedom of Information Act 2000 (Commercial Interests). The assessments are tied to future procurement and funding decisions. The level of competition currently experienced within the NHS is such that the release of detailed information would have a prejudicial impact on the Trust and would weaken the Trust's position in a competitive environment revealing market-sensitive information with potential usefulness to its competitors.

6. Procurement & Partnerships

- a. **Does your organisation currently use any third-party companies or frameworks to deliver solar energy solutions or manage installations? If yes, which ones?** - No
- b. **Are there any upcoming procurement exercises planned relating to solar energy or wider renewable energy solutions?** – The Trust is in the early stages of preparing for procurement related to solar and broader renewable infrastructure as part of our sustainability strategy and future estate upgrades. For procurement queries, please contact NHS Shared Services Partnership - shared.services@wales.nhs.uk.

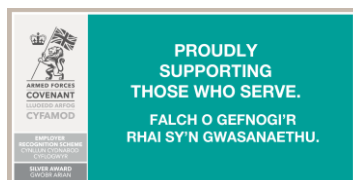
7. Battery Storage

- a. **Do you currently use battery storage alongside your solar panels?** – No
- b. **Are there plans to invest in battery storage in future?** – No set plans yet

8. Funding

- a. **Has your organisation accessed or applied for any external funding to support solar energy projects (e.g. SALIX, Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, LEP funding)?** - Yes

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9. Barriers

- a. **What are the main barriers your organisation faces to further adoption of solar energy (e.g. funding, planning restrictions, roof suitability, internal resource)? – Internal resource, funding, roof sustainability.**

I trust this answers your request for information, however, should you not be satisfied with the information supplied or the process of supplying it, you have a right to complain and request a review. Please note that you must submit a request for a review within 40 days of the date of this letter.

You should forward your complaint to:

Mr Ian Bevan via FOI.VUNHST@wales.nhs.uk
Head of Information Governance
Velindre University NHS Trust
2, Charnwood Court
Heol Billingsley
Parc Nantgarw
Cardiff,
CF15 7QZ

Should you wish to take your complaint further, if you are still unhappy with the decision after review, you can contact the:

Information Commissioner's Office - Wales
2nd Floor, Churchill House
Churchill Way
Cardiff,
CF10 2HH
Telephone: 0330 414 6421
email: wales@ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely

Non Gwilym
Interim Director of Corporate Governance
Velindre University NHS Trust
2 Charnwood Court
Heol Billingsley
Parc Nantgarw
Cardiff,
CF15 7QZ

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