



**Gofynner am/
Please ask for:** Information Governance
and Compliance

Tel: 01443232000

E-bost/E-mail: DataProtection@southwales-fire.gov.uk

Our ref: IG000501

Dyddiad/Date: 08/10/2020

RE: Request for Information held by SWFRS

Your request ref: **IG000501** has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

You asked us:

1. Upon entry to the fire-brigade are there any psychometric tests to assess the mental stability of individuals regarding the stressors of exposure to trauma? (past mental health history, any current issues etc)

ALL SWFRS employees receive a pre-employment medical completed by our practitioners within OHU.

2. Are there any current monitoring techniques such as questionnaires that are undertaken regularly in order to assess the mental health of employees? (are they only if a serious incident occur or a regular, compulsory exercise for employees)

Our post incident initiative offers support following tagged incidents. Trauma Screening Questionnaires may be conducted via our OHU function.

3. Regarding mental-health treatment, do individuals need to reach out for help, or is it regularly offered to employees?

Operational employees receive routine medical surveillance appointments via our OHU. Staff are routinely made aware support services available internally and externally.

Pencadlys Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub De Cymru,
Parc Busnes Forest View, Llantrisant, Pont-y-clun, CF72 8LX.

Ffôn 01443 232000 • Ffacs 01443 232180
www.decymru-tan.gov.uk

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y gymraeg a'r saesneg - byddwn yn ymateb yn gyfartal i'r ddau ac yn ateb yn eich dewis iaith heb oedi.

CODI YMWHYBYDDIAETH - LLEIHAU PERYGL

South Wales Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters,
Forest View Business Park, Llantrisant, Pontyclun, CF72 8LX.

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4. What kind of help do you offer to those suffering with mental health issues?

Yes – mental health support is always available. SWFRS offered a in house occupational health unit. Supporting employee's physical and mental wellbeing. SWFRS has a partnership agreement with Cardiff and Vale University Health Board offering psychotherapy support for all.

5. Are your department currently working on any improvements to your mental health facilities?

Yes – in Nov 2019 SWFRS launched a Mental health project to further develop the mental health provision for all (both operational and corporate employees)

6. Upon retirement or leaving of the fire brigade do you offer any follow up mental health support for employees?

Yes – employees considering retirement are offered to attend a pre-retirement course.

If you have any queries regarding your Freedom of Information request, please contact us at Dataprotection@southwales-fire.gov.uk quoting the reference number above in any future communication.

If you are dissatisfied with the way that your information request has been handled, you can request an internal review by emailing Dataprotection@southwales-fire.gov.uk

UPDATE COVID-19: Information Requests

We are kindly asking that any data protection correspondence come to Information Governance & Compliance via email, as due to Government advice many of our support staff are working flexibly and we may not be in receipt of physical post as normal. SWFRS anticipates that it may take us longer than 20 working days to complete Freedom of Information Requests and Subject Access Requests. The Information Commissioner recognises that there might be delays as our services and resources may be being utilised in slightly different ways, under the current unprecedented circumstances. At current, we are no longer accepting physical postal cheques, however we can accept BACs payments for items that carry a fee (such as IRS Reports and Interviews, where appropriate following standard procedure and charges).

We would like to thank you for your patience at this time.

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If you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner's Office-Wales,
2nd Floor,
Churchill House,
Churchill Way,
Cardiff,
CF10 2HH.

There is no charge for making an appeal.

Yours Faithfully

Information Governance and Compliance

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