

Reference:	FOI.3533.20
Subject:	Cataract surgery
Date of Request:	9 July 2020

Requested:

1. Name of NHS Trust(s) in the HB geographical boundary?
2. Does the HB have / commission a Referral Management (Assessment) Centre that includes Cataract Surgery referrals?
3. If yes, please name the provider that manages it. If in-house, please state in-house?
4. For Cataract Surgery – which providers are commissioned to provide this surgery via NHS Standard Contract?
5. Is this as a block / AQP / NCA arrangement? Please state for each provider, including date (if applicable) the contract expires?
6. Is there an extension clause in the relevant contracts?
If so please state length of extension and name of provider it relates to?
7. For Cataract Surgery – which providers have provided Cataract Surgery on a Non-Contract Activity Basis since 01/01/20?
8. Does the CCG operate a Prior Approval Policy for cataract surgery?
If yes please attach the policy in your response?
9. What was the average waiting time and waiting numbers of patients, in June 2020 and June 2019 for patients waiting for non-complex cataract surgery at the local NHS Trust? If unable to provide at that level please state and provide information at Ophthalmology Specialty?

Response:

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board is the operational name of Hywel Dda University Local Health Board (UHB) is the name of the Health Board covering the geographical area across the three counties of Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire.
2. The UHB confirms it does not have a referral management centre.
3. Not applicable.
4. The UHB confirms the provider commissioned to provide surgery via a NHS Standard contract is BMI, Werndale Hospital.
5. The UHB confirms the contract was procured by NHS Wales Shared Services Partnerships (NWSSP) outsourcing framework, via a mini competition; a tender run within the framework. The contract is from August 2019 to 31 July 2020.
6. The UHB confirms there is no extension clause in the contract.

7. The UHB confirms no other providers have provided cataract surgery on a non-contract basis since 1 January 2020.
8. Clinical Commissioning Groups (**CCGs**) are a feature of the NHS in England. As the UHB is part of NHS Wales, it is an integrated Local Health Board responsible for the planning and provision of primary, community and in hospital services based on the needs of the local community across the three (3) counties. Therefore, the UHB does not operate a prior approval policy for cataract surgery.
9. The UHB provides, within the table below, the number of patients waiting for non-complex cataract surgery and the average waiting times for the periods requested.

	2019	2020
Number of patients	1964	2716
Average waiting time	17 weeks	30 weeks