

Reference:	FOI.18067.25
Subject:	Charitable funds spend
Date of Request:	11 August 2025

Requested:

Could you explain how this staff room ended up costing 6k (Merlin Ward, GGH) when the previous one was 27k (Pharmacy Staff Room, GGH)?

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) can confirm that the main difference in costs between the two (2) projects is due to building works, whereby Merlin Ward in Glangwili General Hospital (GGH) had no building works and the Pharmacy Staff Room in GGH did involve building work.

The refurbishment of Merlin Ward in GGH included re-decoration and the purchase of new furniture. Whilst the Pharmacy staff room project in GGH consisted of the provision of materials, installation work, and the purchase of furniture comprising of chairs, a corner sofa incorporating coffee table and three (3) round dining tables.

Details of these projects are available on the UHB's Health Charities website. Links to the relevant articles have been provided below:

[NHS charity funds furniture worth over £6,000 for Merlin Ward at Glangwili Hospital - Hywel Dda Health charities](#)

[Charitable donations fund staff room upgrade for Glangwili pharmacy - Hywel Dda Health charities](#)

Furthermore, the UHB can confirm that no charitable donations funded the refurbishment of the Pharmacy staff room at GGH; the source of income was payment for clinical research services (such as clinical trials), this has not been made clear in the article.

With regard to the Pharmacy staff room at GGH, the refurbishment, provision of materials and installation work was outsourced to external suppliers. The associated costs were as follows:

Cost	Summary
£18,839.92 + VAT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kitchen works which included removal of existing worktops containing asbestos • Mechanical works • Electrical works • Supply and installation of new cabinetry and shelving • Decoration of walls, woodwork and ceiling • Making good window frame and decoration
£3,647.00 + VAT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twelve (12) chairs • Corner sofa incorporating coffee table • Three (3) round dining tables.