

Reference:	FOI.17642.25
Subject:	Insourcing
Date of Request:	25 June 2025

Requested:

1. Do you use insourcing providers?
2. If yes to the previous question (use of insourcing providers) what is the total value of spend, listed by speciality and insourcing provider, used for Apr-24-Mar-25?

Note: if an insourcing provider covers multiple specialities, please list that provider multiple times (one row for each speciality)

Specialty (e.g. general surgery, ophthalmology etc)	Insourcing provider (fill empty rows with provider name, add rows if required)	Total spend (Apr-24-Mar-25)

3. Please list below contracts with insourcing providers in the current financial year Apr-25-Mar-26.

Specialty (e.g. general surgery, ophthalmology etc)	Insourcing provider (fill empty rows with provider name, add rows if required)	Contract start date	Contract end date (please leave blank if not set)	Formal tender process conducted?	Procurement framework used for award (for example, NHS SBS)	Estimated contract value

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) has applied an exemption under Section 43 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA), to the contract values requested for question 3, as they relate to third parties and would be prejudicial to their commercial interests. Section 43(2) exempts information, where disclosure would or would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any company.

Commercial interests may be prejudiced where disclosure would, or would be likely to:

- Weaken a company's position in a competitive environment by revealing market sensitive information or information of potential usefulness to its competitors
- Damage a company's business reputation or the confidence that customers/users, suppliers or investors may have in it.

This exemption is qualified; therefore, even if information falls within Section 43, public authorities must then apply the public interest test set out in Section 2(2)(b).

The information can only be withheld if the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

The UHB has therefore considered the following:

In favour of disclosure: There is a public interest in transparency and in the accountability of public funds. Furthermore, it is in the public's interest that public funds be used effectively and that public sector bodies obtain the best value for money when contracting for the provision of services. Private sector bodies engaging in commercial activities with the public sector must expect some information about those activities to be disclosed.

Against Disclosure: Disclosure of this information would have a direct impact and cause substantial harm to the suppliers, as it would disclose their pricing and products/services provided to the UHB, and it would be likely that this would damage their ability to work within a highly competitive sector. The information being requested is likely to be used by their competitors to gain a competitive advantage.

Decision: - The UHB has considered that releasing the information under the FoIA, to which the UHB is subject, will give an unfair advantage to the suppliers' competitors. The UHB believes that there is a wider established public interest in companies not being prejudiced merely because they have contracted with a public sector body, and that there is a public interest in ensuring that there is competition for public sector contracts.

Therefore, the public interest in withholding the insourcing contract values is greater than the interests in disclosing it and thereby giving unfair commercial advantage to competitors of the company to which this information concerns.

However, whilst operating in accordance with the Section 45 Freedom of Information Code of Practice, the UHB has a duty to provide advice and assistance and provides the information it holds below.

1. The UHB confirms that it does use insourcing providers.
2. The UHB provides within the table below, the total spend on insourcing by speciality and provider, during the 2024/25 financial year.

Specialty	Provider	Spend
Orthopaedics	HBS	£915,000.00
Neurophysiology	Medinet	£42,000.00
Cardiology	Elective Services Ltd	£47,000.00
MRI Scanning	Compleo	£524,000.00
Dermatology	ID Medical Group	£276,820.00
Non-Obstetric Ultrasounds	Globe Locums	£109,596.00

Neurology

Medinet Wales

£229,008.00

3. The UHB confirms that a formal tender process was undertaken for all insourcing contracts, which were awarded via the All Wales Framework Agreement for Provision of Clinical, Surgical and Diagnostics Procedure.

The UHB provides within the table below, the specialty, provider and contract start and end dates for insourcing contracts for the 2025/26 financial year.

Specialty	Provider	Contract start date	Contract end date
Dermatology	ID Medical Group	01/08/2024	31/03/2025 with 2 x 12-month extensions (currently in extension 1 to 31/03/2026)
Cardiology	Elective Services	01/09/2024	31/03/2025 with 2 x 12-month extensions (currently in extension 1 to 31/03/2026)
Non-Obstetric Ultrasounds	Globe Locums	01/04/2024	30/11/2024 with a 12-month extension (currently in extension to 30/11/2025)
Neurology	Medinet Wales	01/08/2024	31/03/2025 with 2 x 12-month extensions (currently in extension 1 to 31/03/2026)
Neurophysiology	Mediservices Healthcare Ltd	01/02/2025	31/03/2025 with a 12-month extension (currently in extension to 31/03/2026)
Orthopaedic	Healthcare Business Solutions	24/12/2024	31/03/2026 with a 12-month extension option available