

Reference:	FOI.14384.24
Subject:	Local Enhanced Services (LES)
Date of Request:	8 May 2024

Requested:

1. Please provide a list of all the Local Enhanced Services (LES) which are currently available to GP surgeries in this Health Board area.
2. For each LES in section 1 please provide the specific criteria a GP surgery must fulfil to be eligible for payment. (For clarity, this is the essential criteria that must be met for post payment verification to approve payment to the GP surgery.)
3. For each LES in section 1 please provide the value of any fees payable to the GP surgery when they meet the specification in section 2.
4. For each LES in section 1 please provide the date that the fee was last amended.

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is applying a Section 43 exemption of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA) to question 3, as answering would be prejudicial to 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: It is not within the expectation of the GP practices that these details would be released into the public domain, and this in turn could impact negatively on the UHB's relationship with the GP practices, thus affecting our service delivery.

Decision: - The UHB has considered that releasing the information under the FoIA, to which the UHB is subject, would impede upon the UHB's relationship with the GP practices. The UHB believes that there is 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 protecting its relationship with its contracted partners.

The UHB considers that the public interest in withholding the fees payable to GP practices, is greater than the interests in disclosing it.

Additionally, the UHB is unable to disclose the fees for its Managed GP Practice as disclosure of the information being requested, when used in conjunction with other information accessible within the public domain could result in the calculation of fees for other individual GP practices, which has been deemed as commercially sensitive.

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. Therefore, the UHB provides the information that does not fall within the scope of the Section 43 exemption below.

The UHB endeavours to provide information requested in the format requested, where possible. Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA), the UHB has an obligation to provide information held; it does not have to create information to fulfil your request. Consequently, it should be noted that the information provided has been provided in the format held.

1, 2 & 4. The UHB provides the information requested, as detailed within the table below.

Attachment	LES specification	Fee amendment date
Attachment 1	Substance Misuse	1.4.2020
Attachment 2	Administration of Denosumab	1.4.2022
Attachment 3	Extended Hours	1.4.2022
Attachment 4	Monitoring of Near Patient Testing Drugs	1.4.2022
Attachment 5	Administration of Gonadorelins and Degarelix	1.4.2022
Attachment 6	Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR)	1.4.2022
Attachment 7	Extended Minor Injury Surgery	1.4.2022
Attachment 8	Treatment Room	1.4.2022
Attachment 9	Care of the Syrian Refugees in their First Years within the UK	1.4.2022
Attachment 10	Initiation and monitoring of direct oral anticoagulants (DOACs) for licensed indications	1.4.2022
Attachment 11	Hormone Therapy	1.4.2022
Attachment 12	Monitoring of Patients on Injectable Incretin Mimetics	1.4.2022
Attachment 13	Insulin Monitoring	1.4.2022
Attachment 14	Pertussis in pregnancy	1.4.2022
Attachment 15	Care of the Refugees in their First Years within the UK	1.4.2022
Attachment 16	Secondary Care Initiated Phlebotomy	1.4.2023
Attachment 17	Specialised Sexual Health Services	1.4.2022
Attachment 18	Transgender	1.4.2022
Attachment 19	Long-Acting Reversible Contraception	1.4.2022

Please note:- the data provided above is as held at the date of your request. Awarded uplifts are applied retrospectively back to April each year. The 2023/24 uplift has been agreed, however, it has not yet been actioned; when applied it will be backdated to April 2023.