

Reference:	FOI.20963.26
Subject:	Locally commissioned pharmacy services
Date of Request:	8 July 2026

Requested:

1. What locally commissioned clinical services are currently provided by community pharmacies within Hywel Dda University Health Board. Please include any services which are not commissioned as part of the Clinical Community Pharmacy Service or the nationally negotiated Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework
2. The number of pharmacies which have signed up to provide each service
3. The total spending (including fixed retainers and activity-based payments) for each service for the last full financial year in which it is available. If the service is provided under a block contract, please provide the annual contract value for the most recent financial year available.

I'd be most grateful if you could provide your response in Excel or CSV format.

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is applying an exemption under Section 43 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) to the spend for the INR service, as answering would be prejudicial to the provider's 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.

Against Disclosure: Disclosure of this information would have a direct impact and may cause substantial harm to the provider, as it would disclose their spend, and could impact negatively on the UHB's relationship with the service provider, 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 service provider. The UHB believes that there is wider established public interest in 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 spend for this one provider, is greater than the interests in disclosing it.

Therefore, the UHB provides the remaining information within an Excel spreadsheet as requested, at Attachment 1.