

Reference:	FOI.19704.26
Subject:	Maternity spend
Date of Request:	20 February 2026

Requested:

- How much in total was spent by maternity departments you are responsible for, for each calendar year dating back to 2016? Including all staffing, equipment and other costs.
 - The preference is for calendar years, but if the information is more easily recovered by financial years and converting to calendar years would make the request exceed the Section 12 cost limit, delivering the data by financial year would be okay.
 - Likewise, if it would exceed the Section 12 cost limit to extract data beyond a certain year, providing data for as many years as would not exceed the limit would be okay.
- How many cycles of IVF treatment do you offer to eligible patients?

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with all the information requested for question 1, as it is estimated that the cost of answering your request would exceed the “appropriate limit” as stated in the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. The “appropriate limit” represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours (or 2 ½ working days) in determining whether the UHB holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

To provide you with the information requested for the 2016/17 and 2017/18 financial years, the UHB would need to undertake a manual trawl of financial records, to identify any information that may fulfil this part of your request, as it is not recorded centrally.

The UHB is therefore applying an exemption under Section 12 of the FoIA, which provides an exemption from a public authority’s obligation to comply with a request for information where the cost of compliance is estimated to exceed the appropriate limit.

However, under Section 16 of the FoIA, we are required as a public authority, to provide advice and assistance so far as it is reasonable to individuals who have made a request under the FoIA, this can include assisting a requestor to further refine their request.

Unfortunately, the UHB is unable to provide advice on how you can refine your request. This is due to the UHB still requiring a manual trawl of financial records to be undertaken for the 2016/17 and 2017/18 financial years, to identify any of the information requested.

- The UHB does not hold the information in calendar years, it is recorded in financial years. Therefore, the UHB provides within the tables below, the spend on maternity services, during the 2018/19 to 2024/25 financial years and the period 1 April 2025 to 31 January 2026.

Financial year	Spend
2018/19	£9,795,396.00
2019/20	£10,324,096.00
2020/21	£11,143,700.00
2021/22	£11,619,220.00

Financial year	Spend
2022/23	£12,274,456.00
2023/24	£13,514,034.00
2024/25	£14,093,547.00
1/4/25 – 31/1/26	£12,431,137.00

2. The UHB does not hold the requested information as it does not provide In Vitro Fertilisation (IVF) treatment. IVF patients are referred to the Wales Fertility Institute, which is managed by Swansea Bay University Health Board (SBUHB). Therefore, we recommend that you redirect this part of your request to the Freedom of Information Team at SBUHB. The contact details are as follows:

FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk or alternatively, you can contact: FOIA Team, Swansea Bay University Health Board, Health Board Headquarters, 1 Talbot Gateway, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR.