

<b>Reference:</b>	FOI.17077.25
<b>Subject:</b>	Neonatal funding
<b>Date of Request:</b>	10 April 2025

**Requested:**

1. In the financial year ending April 2025, has the Health Board received JCC neonatal tariff, also known as 'Cot', funding?
2. Can you confirm if your Health Board is complying with the BAPM Service specification standards for physiotherapy in neonatal units?
3. If your health board is not complying with the BAPM Service specification standards for physiotherapy in neonatal units, what WTE per designated cot are you providing for the following, as per the service specifications for physiotherapy:
  - NICU cot:
  - HCU Cot:
  - SCBU cot:
  - TC cot:
4. Since the changes to JCC Neonatal Service specification to include physiotherapy workforce can you detail any progress made to ensure physiotherapy staffing in the neonatal unit?
5. Please provide the total amount of the tariff funding that has been allocated to physiotherapy in the Health Board for the financial year that ended April 2025.

**Response:**

1. Hywel Dda Universality Health Board (UHB) confirms that it did receive a cot tariff from NHS Wales Joint Commissioning Committee (NWJCC) for its Neonatal Services, for the 2024/25 financial year.
2. The UHB confirms that it is not currently complying with the British Association of Perinatal Medicine (BAPM) service specification standards for Physiotherapy in its neonatal units.
3. The UHB is unable to provide the information in cot levels exactly as requested due to the limited resource employed by the UHB. The UHB currently employs Neonatal Physiotherapists at a Whole Time Equivalent (WTE) of 0.46, equating to approximately 0.2 WTE for inpatients and 0.26 WTE for follow up activity. However, based on cot numbers, the average time per cot has a WTE of 0.0125, which falls below the BAPM standards.

The UHB's Neonatal Physiotherapists comply with the competence and training requirements outlined in the BAPM service specification. However, the UHB does not have a funded neonatal network role for physiotherapy.

4. The UHB has not made any progress within its Physiotherapy Neonates Service since the changes were made to the NWJCC Neonatal Service specification. The Physiotherapy Department's resource has been unchanged since 2015.

5. The UHB does not hold the information exactly as requested, as the funding is provided to the UHB as a lump sum and is not coded to identify the allocation to physiotherapy. However, the UHB can confirm that a total of £2,219,063.00 was received from the NWJCC for the Neonatal Service as a whole.