

Reference:	FOI.20381.26
Subject:	Ophthalmic support staff
Date of Request:	8 May 2026

Your request and our response

This FOI request is for information about the numbers of ophthalmic support staff working in Eye / Ophthalmology departments in NHS Hospitals, their pay scales and their education and training.

For each category of staff please provide the following information:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with some of the information requested, due to the low numbers (less than 5) and have therefore replaced the figures of those staff members that are not Senior Management level with an asterisk (*), as there is a potential risk of identifying individuals if this was disclosed.

The UHB is therefore withholding this detail under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA). This information is protected by the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA)/UK General Data Protection Regulations (UK GDPR), as its disclosure would constitute unfair and unlawful processing and would be contrary to the principles and articles of the UK GDPR. This exemption is absolute and therefore, there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.

In reaching this decision, the DPA and UK GDPR define personal data as data that relates to a living individual who can be identified solely from that data or from that data and other information, which is in the possession of the data controller.

However, the UHB provides the information within the table overleaf as requested.

Job title* (specify)	No of staff	Pay band	Education and training** Please ✓ or add details as appropriate	
Ophthalmology Administrator	*	2	In house	✓
			CPD	
			External course, include title and course provider	
			Other (please describe)	
Ophthalmic Technicians	5	3	In house	✓
			CPD	✓
			External course, include title and course provider	
			Other (please describe)	
Ophthalmology Coordinator	7	4	In house	✓
			CPD	
			External course, include title and course provider	
			Other (please describe)	
Ophthalmic Lead Technician	*	4	In house	✓
			CPD	✓
			External course, include title and course provider	

			Other (please describe)	
Ophthalmology Service Support Manager	*	5	In house	√
			CPD	√
			External course, include title and course provider	
			Other (please describe)	
Ophthalmology Service Manager	1	7	In house	√
			CPD	
			External course, include title and course provider	
			Other (please describe)	
Ophthalmology Senior Nurse Manager	1	8a	In house	√
			CPD	√
			External course, include title and course provider	
			Other (please describe)	
Ophthalmology Service Delivery Manager	1	8b	In house	√
			CPD	√
			External course, include title and course provider	
			Other (please describe)	

*Job titles, see list below, job titles may include “Senior”, “Clinical” and “Healthcare Science”

- Healthcare Assistant
- Ophthalmic Assistant
- Orthoptic Assistant
- Ophthalmic Technician
- Ophthalmic Science Practitioner
- Ophthalmic Assistant Practitioner
- Ophthalmic Associate Practitioner
- Other, please specify

**Education and training

- In house i.e. provided solely by the employer in the workplace
- Continuing Professional Development (CPD) courses documented by a certificate of attendance
- External courses with a curriculum, learning outcomes and documented assessment of knowledge and/or competence. Please provide course title, and the name of the organisation / institution providing the course.
- Other education and training not listed above