

Reference:	FOI.17508.25
Subject:	Outsourcing of mental health services
Date of Request:	5 June 2025

Requested:

1. In the last 6 months, please confirm if any Mental Health services have been outsourced:
2. If yes, please confirm:
 - The service provided E.G ADHD, Autism etc (please provide breakdown for each service if applicable)
 - The name of the company each service was outsourced to
 - Is there a contract in place and the length of contract for each service provided (if applicable)
 - The value of each service in the last 6 months
3. Please provide an email and contact name within the outsource provider.

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) has applied an exemption under Section 43 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA) to part of question 2 of your request, as the requested costs are outsourced contract costs relating to third parties and 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.

Against Disclosure: Disclosure of this information would have a direct impact and may cause substantial harm to the provider, as it would disclose their pricing, and it would be likely that this would damage their ability to work within a highly competitive sector. The information being requested is likely to be used by their competitors to gain a competitive advantage.

Decision: - The UHB has decided that releasing all of the information under the FoIA, to which the UHB is subject, will give an unfair advantage to the provider's competitors. 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 ensuring that there is competition for public sector contracts.

The UHB considers that the public interest in withholding the contract costs for its outsourced mental health service providers, is greater than the interest in disclosing it.

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 it holds below.

1. The UHB confirms it has outsourced some mental health services in the last 6 months, between 1 December 2024 and 1 June 2025.
2. The UHB provides within the table below a list of the mental health services outsourced between 1 December 2024 and 1 June 2025, including the name of the contracted provider and the length of the contract.

Service	Provider	Contract Length	End date
ASD Assessments	Healios	24 months	March 2025
ASD Assessments	Problem Shared	24 months	March 2025
ADHD Assessments	Problem Shared	12 months	March 2025
Perinatal	Pembrokeshire Mind	36 months	June 2026
Employment and Training	Pembrokeshire Mind	36 months	June 2026
Employment and Training	Links	36 months	June 2026
Learning Disability	Carmarthenshire People First	36 months	June 2026
Learning Disability	Pembrokeshire People First	36 months	June 2026
Community Advocacy	Advocacy West Wales	36 months	June 2026
Wellbeing support	WWAMH	36 months	June 2026
Social Inclusion	Age Cymru	36 months	June 2026
Social Inclusion	Llanelli Mind	36 months	June 2026
Social Inclusion	Adferiad	36 months	June 2026
General Community Support - Carmarthenshire	Adferiad - Carmarthenshire	36 months	June 2026
General Community Support - Carmarthenshire	Llanelli Mind	36 months	June 2026
General Community Support - Carmarthenshire	Carmarthen Mind	36 months	June 2026
General Community Support - Carmarthenshire	HUTS	36 months	June 2026
General Community Support - Carmarthenshire	Arts Care	36 months	June 2026
General Community Support - Pembrokeshire	Adferiad - Pembrokeshire	36 months	June 2026
General Community Support - Pembrokeshire	Pembrokeshire Mind	36 months	June 2026

General Community Support - Ceredigion	Adferiad - Ceredigion	36 months	June 2026
General Community Support - Ceredigion	Pobl	36 months	June 2026
General Community Support - Ceredigion	Kinora	36 months	June 2026
Counselling	Carmarthenshire Counselling	36 months	June 2026
Counselling	Pembrokeshire Counselling Service	36 months	June 2026
Community Wellbeing - Carm's	Adferiad - Carmarthenshire	36 months	June 2026
Community Wellbeing - Carm's	Men2Men - Carmarthenshire	36 months	June 2026
Community Wellbeing - Pembs	Adferiad - Pembrokeshire	36 months	June 2026
Community Wellbeing - Pembs	VC Gallery	36 months	June 2026
Community Wellbeing - Pembs	Men2Men - Pembrokeshire	36 months	June 2026
Community Wellbeing - Pembs	Get The Boys a Lift	36 months	June 2026
Community Wellbeing - Ceredigion	Mind Aberystwyth	36 months	June 2026
Community Wellbeing - Ceredigion	Men2Men - Ceredigion	36 months	June 2026
Sanctuary Services	Adferiad	36 months	June 2026
Sanctuary Services	Pembrokeshire Mind	36 months	June 2026
Sanctuary Services	Adferiad	36 months	June 2026
Digital Wellbeing service	Kooth	36 months	June 2026
Independent Mental Health Advocacy Services	Advocacy West Wales	36 months	June 2026
Children & Young People Sanctuary	Mind Pembrokeshire	36 months	June 2026
Children & Young People Sanctuary	Adferiad	36 months	June 2026

Additionally, the UHB has outsourced the following out of area beds, during the period 1 December 2024 to 31 May 2025:

- The Priory - total of 342 days for 9 episodes
- Cygnet - total of 74 days for 3 episodes.

3. The UHB has applied an exemption under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA), as the information is accessible by another means. The contact details of the mental health service providers listed in question 2 are available online.

For ease of reference, the UHB provides within the table below links to the websites for each of the mental health service providers listed in question 2.

Provider	Contact Details
Healios	Home - Healios
Problem Shared	ProblemShared Online mind health platform ADHD & autism
Pembrokeshire Mind	Pembrokeshire and Carmarthen Mind Mental Health Support in Pembrokeshire Sir Benfro Wales
Links	LINKS Llanelli Mental Health Charity, providing support and learning opportunities
Carmarthenshire People First	Contact Us Carmarthenshire People First
Pembrokeshire People First	Home - Pembrokeshire People First
Advocacy West Wales	Advocacy for Mental health Advocacy West Wales/Eiriolaeth Gorllewin Cymru Phone 01437 762935
WWAMH	Home - West Wales Action for Mental Health
Age Cymru	Age Cymru We are the national charity for older people in Wales
Llanelli Mind	Llanelli Mind - For Better Mental Health in Llanelli
Adferiad	Adferiad Mental Health and Addiction Support Services
Adferiad - Carmarthenshire	Carmarthenshire Carers and Family Support Service
Carmarthen Mind	Llanelli Mind - For Better Mental Health in Llanelli
HUTS	Helping adults with mental health problems, West Wales - Gweithdy HUTS Workshop
Arts Care	Home - Arts Care
Adferiad - Pembrokeshire	Pembrokeshire Mental Health Community Housing Support Project
Adferiad - Ceredigion	Ceredigion Mental Health Sanctuary Service
Pobl	Pobl Mental Health Services - Pobl
Kinora	Kinora - West Wales Action for Mental Health
Carmarthenshire Counselling	Carmarthenshire Counselling Service
Pembrokeshire Counselling Service	Pembrokeshire Counselling Service
Men2Men - Carmarthenshire	Carmarthenshire Mysite
VC Gallery	Veterans & The Community
Men2Men - Pembrokeshire	PembsMensHub Mysite
Get The Boys a Lift	Get The Boys A Lift – GTBAL
Mind Aberystwyth	mindaberystwyth.org
Men2Men - Ceredigion	Ceredigion Mysite
Kooth	Home - Kooth