

<b>Reference:</b>	FOI.15783.24
<b>Subject:</b>	Overseas visitors
<b>Date of Request:</b>	22 October 2024

**Requested:**

I am writing to make a FOI request for anonymised data concerning charges made to overseas visitors for non-urgent care in the period from 1 January 2019 - 1 January 2024.

Please could you provide the data from your trust on the following:

1. Nationality of patients charged during the stated time period
2. Ethnicity of patients charged during the stated time period
3. Invoice amount for all patients subject to charges

**Response:**

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) does not have a record of any overseas visitors' charges for non-urgent care for the 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22 financial years.

The UHB is withholding the requested information for questions 1 and 2 for the 2022/23 and 2023/24 financial years, due to the low number of cases (less than 5), as there is a potential risk of identifying individuals if this was disclosed. Therefore, the UHB is withholding these details under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA).

Additionally, it is not within the expectation of these individuals that their personal data would be put into the public domain. This information is classed as personal data of a third party. Therefore, it is being withheld in accordance with the exemption set out in section 40(2) of the FoIA, by virtue of section 40(3)(a) of the FoIA, which permits a public authority to withhold personal data other than the requestor's where the disclosure would breach Data Protection principles.

This information is protected by the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA)/UK General Data Protection Regulations, 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.

Furthermore, the UHB does not hold the information exactly as requested in question 3, as the UHB records data by financial year and not calendar year. Therefore, the UHB provides within the table below, the invoice amount for overseas visitors receiving non-urgent care, during the 2019/20 to 2023/24 financial years.

Financial year	Invoice amount
2019/20	£0.00
2020/21	£0.00

	2021/22	£0.00	
	2022/23	£3,100.00	
	2023/24	£660.00	