

<b>Reference:</b>	FOI.15052.24
<b>Subject:</b>	Pathology systems
<b>Date of Request:</b>	12 August 2024

**Requested:**

1. LIMS - Information Request:
  - a. Current LIMS Supplier Name?
  - b. Current LIMS System Name?
  - c. Current LIMS Contract Commencement Date?
  - d. Current LIMS Contract Expiration Date?
  - e. Does the current LIMS allow for bidirectional information sharing?
  - f. Does the current LIMS allow for image import?

2. Current Digital Pathology Solution:
  - a. Current Scanner Supplier Name?
  - b. Current Viewer System Name and Provider?
  - c. Contract Commencement Date?
  - d. Contract Expiration Date?

If no Digital Pathology Solution is installed, can you please confirm the following:  
Does the Health Board have plans to adopt a Digital Pathology solution in the next 2 years?

3. Health Boards Departmental Statistics:
  - a. Can you please confirm the number of Pathology Departments across the Health Board?
  - b. Can you please confirm the number of Pathology slides processed per annum?
  - c. Can you please confirm the number of Pathology Consultants in full-time or contract employment across the Health Board?

**System Definitions**

Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) - A LIMS is a software system designed to support the operations of a laboratory. It helps manage and track samples, associated data, and laboratory workflows. LIMS is crucial in many types of labs, including research, clinical, pharmaceutical, environmental, and manufacturing labs.

Digital Pathology Solution - A Digital Pathology Solution is a technology platform that facilitates the digitisation, management, analysis, and sharing of pathology data. This system primarily involves converting traditional glass slide samples into high-resolution digital images, which can then be analysed using specialised software. Digital Pathology is increasingly used in clinical diagnosis, research, and education due to its numerous advantages over traditional methods.

**Response:**

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) does not hold all of the information requested. However, the UHB provides the Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) information it does hold within the table below.

a.	Current LIMS Supplier Name?	Digital Health and Care Wales (DHCW)
b.	Current LIMS System Name?	Welsh Laboratory Information System (WLIMs)

c.	Current LIMS Contract Commencement Date?	Not held. Please re-direct these parts of your request to the Freedom of Information team in DHCW. Contact details have been provided below.
d.	Current LIMS Contract Expiration Date?	
e.	Does the current LIMS allow for bidirectional information sharing?	
f.	Does the current LIMS allow for image import?	

[DHCW.FOI@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:DHCW.FOI@wales.nhs.uk) or alternatively, you can contact: Digital Health and Care Wales, Ty Glan-yr-Afon, 21 Cowbridge Road East, Cardiff, CF11 9AD.

2. The UHB does not currently have a Digital Pathology Solution. However, a business case for an all Wales Digital Pathology Solution has been submitted to all Health Boards in Wales for approval.
- 3a. The UHB confirms that it has four (4) Pathology departments; Cellular Pathology, Blood Sciences, Microbiology and Clinical Haematology.
- 3b. The UHB confirms that approximately 163,000 Histopathology slides are processed per annum.
- 3c. The UHB confirms that it employs ten (10) full time Pathology Consultants.