

Reference:	FOI.14452.24
Subject:	Pest control
Date of Request:	20 May 2024

Requested:

The number of pest control call outs at hospitals in your area in 2021, 2022 and 2023 and 2024 to date.

Please break this information down by hospital, including details of the date of the call out, the reason for the call out, the location within the hospital, the outcome and the cost of the callout.

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) confirms that it does not hold a central record of pest control call outs. Individual sites across the UHB manage their own pest control and it would exceed the 18 hours' time and cost limit to contact all areas of the UHB and collate the information required.

Therefore, the UHB is unable to provide you with the information requested, as it is estimated that the cost of answering your request would exceed the "appropriate limit" as stated in the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. The "appropriate limit" represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours (or 2½ working days) in determining whether the UHB holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

In order to provide you with the information requested, the UHB would need to contact each site within the UHB, which would include, but not be limited to, its four (4) main hospitals, its seven (7) community hospitals, six (6) managed GP practices, eleven (11) health centres and numerous locations providing mental health and learning disabilities services, to identify and collate any information that would fulfil your request.

The UHB is therefore applying an exemption under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA), which provides an exemption from a public authority's obligation to comply with a request for information where the cost of compliance is estimated to exceed the appropriate limit.

However, under section 16 of the FoIA, the UHB has a duty to provide advice and assistance. Therefore, the UHB provides the accessible information it holds; the number of call outs made, by county, for the 2021 to 2023 calendar years and 1 January to 30 April 2024, is set out in the table below.

County	2021	2022	2023	1/1/24 to 30/4/24
Carmarthenshire	56	17	36	14
Ceredigion	17	21	33	16
Pembrokeshire	7	21	56	44