

Reference:	FOI.2392.20
Subject:	Plastic aprons within the NHS
Date of Request:	24 January 2020

Requested:

1. The total amount of money the health board spend on medical plastic aprons during the financial year 2014-2015
2. The total amount of money the health board spend on medical plastic aprons during the financial year 2015-2016
3. The total amount of money the health board spend on medical plastic aprons during the financial year 2016-2017
4. The total amount of money the health board spend on medical plastic aprons during the financial year 2017-2018
5. The total amount of money the health board spend on medical plastic aprons during the financial year 2018-2019
6. Do members of the public visiting your hospitals and other premises have to wear plastic aprons and gloves at certain times, and in certain areas?
7. What's your policy on wearing plastic aprons? [Link to PPE policy below](#)
8. If you do have a policy – when was this policy introduced?
9. What is the medical justification used?

Response:

1. – 5. The table below provides the total amounts spent by Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) on medical plastic aprons during the requested timeframe.

Financial Year	Total spend (£)
2014/15	26,961
2015/16	27,039
2016/17	27,781
2017/18	28,287
2018/19	26,766

6. There may be occasions where the Infection Prevention and Control team is required to conduct risk assessments and as a result will request that members of the public wear a plastic apron. All risk assessments are completed on an individual basis as required; appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as a result of this will be recommended and communicated to all staff and visitors.
7. The UHB does have a PPE Policy and Procedure, a weblink to this can be found below:

<http://howis.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/documents/862/151-PPEPolicy%20-version2.pdf>

8. The first version of the current policy and procedure was introduced in August 2011 and was subsequently reviewed in March 2017.
9. The UHB does not have a medical justification for the use of PPE. PPE is a key element of standard infection prevention and control precautions, which must be applied in all healthcare settings. The use of the correct type of PPE (gloves, aprons/gowns and facial protection) is essential to protect the health and safety of staff, patients and visitors.