

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request Reference Fol/21/428**  
**Artwork Owned by Cardiff and Vale University Health Board**

**Request Details**

Please provide the following information:

1. How many artworks have been purchased by the trust in 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21?
2. How many artworks are in the possession of the trust?
3. What is the estimated value of the artworks?
4. How many of the artworks are on public display?

Public display includes those that can be viewed by the members of the public in trust buildings. It would exclude areas of trust properties that cannot readily be entered into by members of the public.

Artwork includes, but is not limited to, paintings, photographs, sculptures and electronic art.

**Response Details**

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (the UHB) does not hold this data. Under our Section 16 obligation to provide advice and assistance, I can inform you that in the UHB, patients, staff, volunteers, visitors and the Executive Team place a real value on a positive healing environment, this clearly includes how our hospitals look and feel. Feedback from individuals highlight the amount of collaborative thinking and genuine desire to make the hospital a positive place to work, visit or be treated. Having interesting artworks are part of this strategy. Artworks are often integrated into building schemes: for example flooring, glass design and ceiling tiles and are not always conventional portable pictures.

By using good quality design and artworks we can create an environment that reduces anxiety, boredom and even blood pressure, all of which support patient recovery.

Artworks in a hospital can and do have a distinctive cost benefit, and there are several examples in the All-Party Parliamentary Group Inquiry and subsequent report on Arts, Health & Wellbeing, chaired by Lord Howarth

<https://www.culturehealthandwellbeing.org.uk/appg-inquiry/>

We have not accessed any Health Board funds during the period of this FOI and have been reliant on charitable grants and donations.

We do not hold comprehensive information in paper or digital form.

As a UHB we do not maintain a corporate register of artwork across our sites and in relation to value, the value of art increases and decreases in line with popularity and market factors and we do not maintain the value of artworks as assets.

We do not have the resources to quantify the social, emotional or financial value of the artworks on the lives of our patients, staff, visitors or volunteers but we hope this provides you with a context to why Artworks are present in our hospital environment.

It is very difficult to assess the real value of art in hospitals. To see further information on the art programme, visit:

<https://cardiffandvale.art/>