<u>Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request Reference Fol/22/228</u> Private Taxi and Ambulance Call-outs

1. For each of the last five financial years, how much was spent on private taxi and ambulance journeys, and how many times were they used?

17-18 - £350.672

18-19 - £305,330

19-20 - £378,598

20-21 - £256,255

21-22 - £369,628

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (the UHB) does not hold ambulance information. Under Section 16 of the FOIA, which provides us with the duty to advise and assist, the UHB can inform you that we have a partnership with Welsh Ambulance Service Trust (WAST) and they may be able to assist you with your query, please see their contact details below:

Email: FOI.amb@wales.nhs.uk

2. Which companies were used for this work?

Premier Taxis

3. What was the general reason for the journeys – i.e. what percentage was patient transport, how much was staff use, transport medicine, courier, etc.?

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (the UHB) does not hold this information.

4. How much was spent on transporting patients, how many times were they used, and what percentage of all patient transport was this?

In completing a search for the information requested, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (the UHB) has confirmed that this information is not centrally recorded or collated. To retrieve the information requested would require a manual search through individual records and the UHB considers that this would exceed the limit set within regulations for responding to a request. The UHB has therefore relied upon the Section 12 exemption ('Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit') of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is refusing your request.

The UHB has estimated that to complete the work needed to respond to this request would exceed the time limit as set within regulations to respond to a Freedom of Information Act request. Under the Act there is an allowance of two and a half days, or 18 hours, to comply with a request and the cost limit set within the fees' regulations for this amount of work (18 hours) is £450 for the UHB. The fees regulations specify that the cost of complying with a request must be calculated at the rate of £25 per hour.



5. Of the patient transport, how many were emergency calls, what percentage of all emergency calls were they and what was the financial cost?

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (the UHB) does not hold this information. Under Section 16 of the FOIA, which provides us with the duty to advise and assist, the UHB can inform you that taxis would not be used in cases of emergency.

6. Of the patient transport, how many were non-emergency calls, what percentage of all non-emergency patient transport were they, and what was the cost?

Taxi usage for patients would not be emergency.

7. What was the highest and lowest charge for one journey?

In completing a search for the information requested, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (the UHB) has confirmed that this information is not centrally recorded or collated. To retrieve the information requested would require a manual search through individual records and the UHB considers that this would exceed the limit set within regulations for responding to a request. The UHB has therefore relied upon the Section 12 exemption ('Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit') of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is refusing your request.

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However, under Section 16 of the FOIA, which provides us with the duty to advise and assist, the UHB can inform you that in March 2022, the most expensive journey from UHW was £114.2 There were also several journeys at £5.