

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request Reference FoI/23/609**

**Translation**

**For the last financial year, what was the total amount spent on translation costs?**

For the financial year ending 31 March 2023, the total expenditure was £893,982.

**Can you provide a breakdown of these costs by language translated.**

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

**Do you hire any dedicated translators? If so provide details of how many, total salary cost and for what language.**

The UHB employs two Senior Welsh Language Translators.

After considering your request for total salary cost, the UHB believes that the data requested is classed as personal data as defined under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018. Its disclosure would be contrary to the data protection principles and constitute unfair and unlawful processing with regard to Articles 5, 6, and 9 of the GDPR. We are therefore withholding this detail under section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This exemption is absolute and therefore there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.

However, according to our duty to advise and assist under section 16 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the UHB can confirm that both employees are Band 6.

Furthermore, the UHB can advise that any translation that the employed translators are unable to do is then referred to the UHB's partners, Bilingual Cardiff, at Cardiff City Council. There, the UHB spent £112,000 during the financial year ending 31 March 2023 on translation from Cardiff City Council. The UHB does not send any work to any other translation providers. For more information on this, please refer to the following weblink: [Bilingual Cardiff: Welsh Translation](#).

Lastly, the UHB can confirm that it employs four part-time Link Workers who support patients and families. Their role includes, but is not limited to:

- Providing information and advice to Healthcare Professionals regarding culture and religious practices;
- Identifying unmet health needs;
- Liaising with various communities;
- Working in partnership with Health Visiting, Childhood Immunisation and Public Health teams;
- Supporting and encouraging the uptake for childhood immunisations; and
- Sharing other Public Health messages with their communities.

As part of this role, the Link Workers will support patients with translation services, but are not dedicated translators.