

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request Reference FoI/24/393
Travel

1. Do you current have a Cycle to Work Scheme

Yes.

2. Would you like to have a Cycle to Work Scheme

Not applicable.

3. Are you working towards Net Zero Carbon

Yes, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (the UHB) has a Decarbonisation Action Plan – please find [here](#).

4. Do you have a Green Transport Plan

Yes, this is under review.

5. Do you have pool cars

No, although some cares within individual department fleets are used.

6. Do you operated electric vehicles

Yes, the UHB is currently transitioning the fleet to electric and hybrid vehicles.

7. Do you offer a Staff Travel Benefits scheme

Yes.

8. Do you have your own internal transport team

Yes.

9. Would you like a free transport review

The UHB does not hold this information.

10. Do you use external taxis and couriers

Yes.

11. What is your combined annual Taxi and Courier costs

After considering your request, the UHB considers this information to be exempt from disclosure under section 43 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('Commercial interests'). This section of the Act sets out an exemption from the right to know if:

- the information requested is a trade secret, or
- release of the information is likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any person. (A person may be an individual, a company, the public authority itself or any other legal entity.)

This exemption was considered by the UHB when deciding whether to disclose information because it considered that in doing so there could be a significant risk in prejudicing the commercial interests of both the supplier and the UHB. As this is a qualified exemption, the UHB is required to complete a public interest test in deciding whether it is in the public's interest to withhold or disclose the information.

In favour of disclosure

There is a public interest in transparency and in the accountability of spending of public funds. Furthermore, it is in the public's interest that public funds be used effectively and that public sector bodies obtain the best value for money when contracting for the provision of services.

Against disclosure

It has been established that releasing the information sought under the Freedom of Information Act, to which the UHB is subject, will give an unfair advantage to the supplier's competitors. There is a risk of disclosure prejudicing the commercial interests of the UHB by affecting its bargaining position with suppliers. This in turn could lead to less effective use of public funds in future. The UHB believes that there is wider established public interest in suppliers not being prejudiced merely because they have contracted with a public sector body (as upheld in ICO decision notice FS50473543 *ICO v Royal Marsden Hospital Trust*).

Decision

The UHB considers that the public interest in withholding the information is greater than the interests in disclosing it and thereby giving unfair commercial advantage to competitors of the supplier to which this information concerns. The UHB believes that disclosure of information in a manner which fails to protect the interests and relationships arising in a commercial context could have the effect of discouraging companies from dealing with the Health Board because of fears that the disclosure of information could damage them commercially. In turn this could then jeopardise the Health Board's ability to compete fairly and pursue its function to bring forward development in the area and obtain value for money. It was therefore decided that it is not in the public's interest to disclose this information.

Please provide contact details for:

Sustainability Manager

Transport Manager

Head of Facilities

After considering your request for contact details, the UHB believes that the data requested is classed as personal data as defined under the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the 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 UK 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.