

Freedom of Information Request	FOI 21-257-01	16 th August 2021
--------------------------------	---------------	------------------------------

We would be extremely surprised if you do not hold the information in a system whereby you could pull out what was required, rather than the need to query each record manually.

Thus, we would invite you to reconsider. On this point, questions (g) and (h) do not relate to individual records, and so could be answered. Of the other questions, the most important are (c), (d) and (f). Indeed, obtaining the information for (d) and (f) would enable you to answer (c), as the response to (c) could be computed as the answer to (f) divided by the answer to (d).

Therefore, if the request was modified to only questions (c), (d), (f), (g) and (h), would you be able to answer these within the appropriate limit

(c) The average ("arithmetic mean") price per hour paid to all Homecare Providers for all hours of homecare services purchased during the Reference Period, expressed in pounds and pence per hour.

(d) The total hours of Homecare purchased from all Homecare Providers during the Reference Period.

(f) Your organisation's total spend on Homecare Services purchased from all Homecare Providers during the Reference Period

Unfortunately, the database held by the Health Board does not enable a breakdown of the costs for patients specifically over 65 and receiving care in their own home to be extracted, as these include Physical Disability/ Elderly mental infirm and Acquired Brain Injury. The costs that we have on the

database are manually calculated when the package is set up, based on the hours provided and the care providers rate, of which the total cost is allocated. This total cost will include 45 min calls, hourly calls, half hourly calls etc. It is not possible to provide further information without a manual review of individual packages to review the hours recorded and associated rates. Therefore in order to comply with your request the Health Board has established that in order to determine this it would have to review every patient record. This would exceed the appropriate costs limit under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 which is currently £450. As you will be aware this is not an exemption which requires us to consider the application of the public interest test. We have calculated that it would take in excess of 18 hours to review the record of each patient.

g) In relation to contracts held with independent and voluntary sector Homecare Providers:

- (i) Whether your organisation has imposed a contractual requirement that any Homecare Provider pay their workers an hourly rate above the prevailing rate of the statutory National Minimum Wage (including the statutory National Living Wage). Please answer "Yes" or "No".**

No

- (ii) The minimum pay rate specified, in pounds and pence per hour, if the answer to question (g)(i), above, was "Yes".**

N/A

- (h) In relation to how you have calculated the price(s) you pay for Homecare:**

- (i) Whether, in the financial years 2019-20, 2020-21 or 2021-22, you have undertaken a numerical calculation of the hourly cost of a homecare service to assure yourself that the price(s) you pay to independent and voluntary sector Homecare Providers covers their costs and expectations of a profit or surplus. Please answer "yes" or "no".**

No. Fees are aligned to the respective Local Authority area rate as a baseline due to the same level of services commissioned.

For higher skill level/complex services – fees are agreed on an individual basis and following receipt of a full costing breakdown.

- (ii) If your answer to question (h)(i) was "yes", please supply a copy of the most recent numerical calculation referred to in your answer, including the financial year to which it relates. For the avoidance of doubt, this question asks you to supply a numerical calculation, rather than a narrative description of the factors which you have considered in setting the prices paid.**

N/A