



GIG
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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University
Health Board

Cadeirydd/Chairman: **Andrew Davies**
Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive: **Tracy Myhill**

gofalu am ein gilydd, cydweithio, gwella bob amser
caring for each other, working together, always improving

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg ac yn y Saesneg. We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

Dyddiad/Date: 3rd May 2019
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 19-D-011

☎ 01639 683312

☎ 01639 648363

🖱 FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk

Corporate Administration
Headquarters
1 Talbot Gateway
Baglan
Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act Request acknowledged by ourselves on 9th April 2019. Your request sought information relating to special contact lenses.

Please note that from 1st April 2019 responsibility for providing healthcare services for people in the Bridgend County Borough Council area transferred from Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board to Cwm Taf University Health Board. In light of this change to ABMU's responsibilities, the organisation's name has changed to Swansea Bay University Health Board.

- 1. Could you please provide how many special contact lenses (to treat irregular cornea conditions) did you purchase (unit) and how much did you spent on contact lenses by product name (i.e. Kerasoft IC), supplier name (i.e. UltraVision) and contact lens types (i.e. RGP, Soft etc) for last 2 years covering 2016-2018**

Please find attached the information you require. We are unable to break the cost down by supplier as this would be considered commercially sensitive. Section 43 of the Act sets out an exemption for the right to know if 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). Section 43 is a qualified exemption. That is, it is subject to the public interest test.

The Health Board accepts that there is a public interest in ensuring openness and transparency and there is an interest in the public being aware of how much money is spent and the benefits derived from that expenditure. However, the Health Board believes that disclosure of information in a manner which fails to protect the interests



Pencadlys BIP Bae Abertawe, Un Porthfa Talbot, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR / Swansea Bay UHB Headquarters, One Talbot Gateway, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Bae Abertawe yw enw gweithredu Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University Health Board is the operational name of Swansea Bay University Local Health Board

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 Boards 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 publics' interest to disclose this information by supplier, however we have provided the total cost per year for your information.

I hope this information is helpful. If you require anything further please contact us at FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk.

Under the terms of the Health Board's Freedom of Information policy, individuals seeking access to recorded information held by the Health Board are entitled to request internal review of the handling of their requests. If you would like to complain about the Health Board's handling of your request please contact me directly at the address below or register your complaint via FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk.

If after Internal Review you remain dissatisfied you are also entitled to refer the matter to the information commissioner at the Information Commissioner's Office (Wales), 2nd Floor, Churchill House, Churchill Way, Cardiff, CF10 2HH. Telephone Number: 029 2067 8400.

Yours sincerely



Pam Wenger
Director of Corporate Governance

