17 November 2026

Dear

ATISN 26-0071 – Community Pharmacy Clinical Services Allocation

Thank you for your request to Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 20 October 2026, concerning the £37.9 million allocation for clinical services, including the Pharmacist Independent Prescribing Service, within the Welsh Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework for 2025–26.

You requested the following information:

1. *A breakdown of the £37.9 million budget by individual clinical service, identifying the amount allocated to each service, including independent prescribing.*

2. *The actual expenditure against each of those service allocations, and the total expenditure against the £37.9 million budget. If final figures are not yet held, please provide the latest available figures and state the period they cover and whether they are provisional.*

3. *For each service, the number of pharmacy premises that received payments during the year. Please distinguish this from the number accredited or commissioned to offer the service, where those figures are held.*

4. *A breakdown of actual expenditure and the number of pharmacy premises receiving payments, by clinical service and local health board, including Hywel Dda University Health Board.*

5. *The recorded payment rules used to distribute this funding, including eligibility requirements, payment bands, consultation thresholds and any fixed or activity-based payments. Links to the relevant published documents would be welcome.*

6. *Any recorded underspend, overspend or transfer of funding into or out of the £37.9 million allocation, identifying the amounts and the services or budget headings concerned.*

7. *Identify whether the expenditure figures include medicine reimbursement, consumables, establishment payments or set-up payments, so that the figures can be interpreted accurately.*

Our Response

1. *A breakdown of the £37.9 million budget by individual clinical service, identifying the amount allocated to each service, including independent prescribing.*

In 2025/26m, the Welsh Government allocated £37.9m to clinical services provided under the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (CPCF). The allocation was not apportioned to individual clinical services. Health boards have discretion to use the funding to meet the pharmaceutical needs of its population by providing those services they are directed to provide by Welsh Ministers (the Clinical Community Pharmacy Service (CCPS), comprising the Common Ailments Service, Emergency Medicines Supply Service and Contraception Service)), the Discharge Medicines Review Service, the Pharmacy Independent Prescribing Service, and the Primary Care (Contracted Services: Immunisations): Seasonal Influenza Service. The balance of the allocation is used by health boards to commission clinical services to meet locally identified needs.

For 2025/26 the clinical services allocations for each health board were as follows:

Health Board	Clinical Services Allocation (£m)
Aneurin Bevan Health Board	7.1
Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board	8.0
Cardiff and Vale University Health Board	5.5
Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board	5.9
Hywel Dda Health Board	4.9
Powys Teaching Health Board	1.4
Swansea Bay University Health Board	4.8
Total	37.9

Whilst the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (CPCF) includes an allocation for community pharmacy clinical services, health boards are may allocate additional funding to support commissioning community pharmacy clinical services, from the general discretionary allocation.

2. The actual expenditure against each of those service allocations, and the total expenditure against the £37.9 million budget. If final figures are not yet held, please provide the latest available figures and state the period they cover and whether they are provisional.

The information held by the Welsh Government on actual expenditure in 2025/26 against the clinical services allocation is provided at Annex to this letter [See attached]

3.For each service, the number of pharmacy premises that received payments during the year. Please distinguish this from the number accredited or commissioned to offer the service, where those figures are held.

The Welsh Government does not hold complete information on the number of individual pharmacy premises receiving payments for each clinical service.

Health boards are responsible for commissioning services and will hold information relating to services commissioned from pharmacies within their areas.

Some information is published monthly by NWSSP but not complete dataset Dispensing Contractor Activity by Service - NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership
The Welsh Government publishes a summary of community pharmacy activity in its annual community pharmacy statistical report, which includes some of the requested information – the latest report relating to 2024/25 is available at Community pharmacy services | GOV.WALES

4. A breakdown of actual expenditure and the number of pharmacy premises receiving payments, by clinical service and local health board, including Hywel Dda University Health Board.

The Welsh Government does not hold information regarding the number of pharmacy premises receiving payments by clinical service or by health board. Information regarding the allocation made by the Welsh Government to each health board and a breakdown of health board total expenditure against the allocation is provided in the responses to question 1 and 2 respectively.

5. The recorded payment rules used to distribute this funding, including eligibility requirements, payment bands, consultation thresholds and any fixed or activity-based payments. Links to the relevant published documents would be welcome.

Details of the remuneration arrangements for directed services and locally commissioned clinical services which have common remuneration arrangements agreed by all health boards, are set out in Parts VID and VIE of the Drug Tariff which can be accessed at NHS Electronic Drug Tariff.

Eligibility requirements are set out in the relevant clinical service Directions and service specifications. The applicable Clinical Services Directions are published at Pharmaceutical Services (Clinical Services) (Wales) Directions 2026.
The service specifications for DMR, CCPS and PIPS are available through the All Wales Pharmacy Database. The specification for the seasonal influenza service is published with the Primary Care (Contracted Services: Immunisations) (Influenza) Directions 2025.
For other services commissioned locally by health boards, the Welsh Government does not hold service specifications or details of remuneration arrangements. These will be held by the relevant health boards who commission those services.

6. Any recorded underspend, overspend or transfer of funding into or out of the £37.9 million allocation, identifying the amounts and the services or budget headings concerned There is no transfer of funding into or out of the £37.9m allocation.

Clinical service funding is ringfenced at health board level, meaning that if actual clinical service expenditure is less that that allocated, the balance is redistributed to pharmacy

contractors within that health board, based on the share of clinical service activity provided by the contractor. For example, if a contractor delivered 1% of clinical service spend, they would also receive 1% of any unspent allocation through the redistribution mechanism.

In 2025-26, expenditure on clinical service provision in each health board was below its allocation, with just under £4.5m redistributed to contractors across Wales.

	Clinical Services Allocation 2025-26 (£m)	Clinical service spend (£m)	Redistribution (£m)	Total spend (£m)
Aneurin Bevan University Health Board	7.1	6.3	0.8	7.1
Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board	8.0	6.3	1.6	8.0
Cardiff and Vale University Health Board	5.5	5.2	0.3	5.5
Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board	5.9	5.2	0.7	5.9
Hywel Dda University Health Board	4.9	4.7	0.1	4.9
Powys teaching Health Board	1.4	1.0	0.3	1.4
Swansea Bay University Health Board	4.8	4.3	0.4	4.8
Total	37.9	33.4	4.4	37.9

The total expenditure was therefore £37.9m for 2025/26.

7. *Please also identify whether the expenditure figures include medicine reimbursement, consumables, establishment payments or set-up payments, so that the figures can be interpreted accurately.*

The clinical services allocation covers remuneration for providing clinical services only. It does not cover reimbursement for medicines supplied or for specific consumables used in the delivery of clinical services. Service fees are calculated to reflect the actual cost of service delivery including any consumables which may be generally used by pharmacies in providing clinical services, plus an element of fair return. Details of reimbursement arrangements for medicines and specific consumables necessary for the provision of particular services are set out in Part VIE of the Drug Tariff. The clinical service allocation excludes the establishment payment paid to pharmacies.

Next Steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an

internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:
Information Rights Unit
Welsh Government
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ
or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:
Information Commissioner's Office
4th Floor
No. 3 Circle Square
5 Hawkshaw Street
Manchester
M1 7BL

Telephone: 0303 123 1113
Website: www.ico.org.uk

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely,