

Dear

ATISN 25201 – Carr-Hill

Thank you for your request to Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 29 September 2025 regarding the Carr-Hill formula. You requested the following:

- 1. Any correspondence between the Welsh Government and UK Government relating to the Carr-Hill formula between 2004 and 2007.*
- 2. What is the process of the distribution of GP funding to GPs in Wales via the Carr-Hill formula?*
- 3. Is the money allocated to GPs through the Carr-Hill formula also Barnetized?*
- 4. Is the funding of the Carr-Hill still done centrally in Westminster?*
- 5. Any correspondence between the Welsh Government and NHS Wales Health boards relating to the Carr-Hill formula since 2009?*
- 6. Any correspondence between the Welsh Government and UK Government relating to the Carr-Hill formula since June 2024.*

Our Response

Welsh Government has interpreted your request regarding the Carr-Hill formula the mean the following:

The current GMS funding model was introduced in April 2004 and has remained unchanged with the introduction of the new Unified Contract in 2023. On introduction in 2004 practice payments were mapped according to *Investing in General Practice: The New General Medical Services Contract* (otherwise known as the [Blue Book](#)), with the overall payments consolidated into one centralised funding pot. The Global Sum Allocation Formula (practical application of Carr-Hill) has been the mechanism for apportioning funding to GMS. It allocates funding to practices based on their patient list size and is weighted by a number of measures to ensure that GP practices are compensated based on the needs of the populations they serve.

Overall GMS allocations are managed by Health Boards, with funding provided to GPs for delivering NHS services. The GMS allocation is ring-fenced, but resource limited, with any risk around outturn managed by HBs.

The answers to your specific questions can be found below:

1. Welsh Government holds no recorded correspondence specifically concerning the Carr-Hill (Global Sum Allocation) formula for the period in question.
2. This is set out online in the National Health Service (Wales) Act 2006, Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (Directions and can be found at [Directions to Local Health Boards as to the Statement of Financial Entitlements Directions 2013 \(2013 No.8\) | GOV.WALES](#)), within Annex B.

3. Money is allocated to GPs based on the size of their patient list (weighted by the Global Sum Allocation Formula). This is not affected by the Barnett formula.
4. The Carr-Hill formula, or Global Sum Allocation Formula is not 'funded'. The Welsh Government applies the formula to the existing historical Health Board allocations and GP payments for GMS, and it is used to apportion that funding based on its subsequent application.
5. Welsh Government holds no recorded correspondence specifically concerning the Carr-Hill (Global Sum Allocation) formula for the period in question.
6. Welsh Government holds no recorded correspondence specifically concerning the Carr-Hill (Global Sum Allocation) formula for the period in question.

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
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

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

Yours sincerely,