

Dear

## ATISN 26322 – Cancer Research

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 31 October 2025, in relation to the cancer research.

You requested the following:

### **Clarification on total cancer research spend**

1. *Confirm the total value of the Wales Government cancer research funding programme awards for the financial years 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25 (to date, if final figures are not yet available), so that these can be directly compared with the site-specific cancer figures. (Provide the value for each financial year separately, rather than as aggregated totals.)*

### **Site-specific cancer research spend for financial years 2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25**

2. *Provide the site-specific breakdown of the Wales Government research funding for each of the less survivable cancer types (brain, lung, pancreatic, liver, oesophageal, and stomach) for each of the following financial years: 2022/23, 2023/24, and 2024/25 (to date, if final figures are not yet available). (These figures should be directly comparable to the total value of the Wales Government cancer research funding programme awards for the same financial years (as requested in Question 1).)*

### **Other funding sources**

3. *Confirm whether the Wales Government supports cancer research through any mechanisms other than funding programme awards (for example, infrastructure, collaborations, or other research initiatives).*
4. *If so, indicate the proportion or value of such non-programme-award funding for each of the three financial years (2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25 - to date, if final figures are not yet available), and the site-specific breakdown for each of the less survivable cancers (brain, lung, pancreatic, liver, oesophagus, stomach).*

### **Our Response**

**1. Note on the figures provided in tables 1 and 2:** we are a general research funder and our funding schemes offer research grants across ALL health, social care and public health topics. Funding is offered on an open and competitive basis. Wales does not have research strength in all areas of cancer research and funding decisions are based on both health and care need and the quality of individual funding applications. All our calls remain open to research with an interest in the less survivable cancers noted.

**Table 1. Clarification on total cancer research spend**

<b>Question</b>	1. Please confirm the total value of the Wales Government cancer research funding programme awards for the financial years 2022/23, 2023/24 and
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	2024/25 (to date, if final figures are not yet available), so that these can be directly compared with the site-specific cancer figures.  Please provide the value for each financial year separately, rather than as aggregated totals.
<b>Answer</b>	2022/23: £759,235 2023/24: £660,514 2024/25: £385,784

## 2.

**Table 2. Site-specific cancer research spend for financial years 2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25**

<b>Question</b>	<p>2. Please provide the site-specific breakdown of the Wales Government research funding for each of the less survivable cancer types (brain, lung, pancreatic, liver, oesophageal, and stomach) for each of the following financial years: 2022/23, 2023/24, and 2024/25 (to date, if final figures are not yet available).</p> <p>These figures should be directly comparable to the total value of the Wales Government cancer research funding programme awards for the same financial years (as requested in Question 1).</p>		
<b>Answer</b>	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Brain*	£0	£0	£0
Lung	£57,500	£115,000	£57,500
Pancreatic	£0	£0	£0
Liver	£0	£0	£0
Oesophagus	£0	£0	£0
Stomach	£67,600	£33,974	£0

\*Additionally, £166k has been allocated to a project with brain cancer relevance that commenced in financial year 2025/25 and is thus outside the scope of this request.

**3.** Welsh Government supports cancer research through providing infrastructure funding in both Universities (via research centres) and the NHS (research delivery funding to undertake research studies/trials).

## 4a. Research Development

**Table 3. Other funding sources**

<b>Question</b>	3. Please confirm whether the Wales Government supports cancer research through any mechanisms other than funding programme awards (for example, infrastructure, collaborations, or other research initiatives).
<b>Answer</b>	In relation to supporting the development of new research, the Welsh Government provides underpinning infrastructure funding to the following centres: a) Wales Cancer Research Centre; b) Wales Cancer

	Biobank; c) Experimental Cancer Research Centre (paediatric and adult arms). The latter is co-funded with Cancer Research UK. These are underpinning investments, aligned with the six themes of the Cancer Research Strategy for Wales (CReSt), and applicable to <i>all</i> cancer activity. <i>As such, funding is neither allocated nor monitored on a site-specific basis.</i>
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Question	3.1 If so, please indicate the proportion or value of such non-programme-award funding for each of the three financial years (2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25 - to date, if final figures are not yet available), and the the site-specific breakdown for each of the less survivable cancers (brain, lung, pancreatic, liver, oesophagus, stomach).		
Answer	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Wales Cancer Research Centre	£975,000	£1,471,433	£1,472,729
Wales Cancer Biobank	£480,751	£495,830	£520,552
Experimental Cancer Medicine Centre	£0	£298,978	£298,975

#### 4b. Research Delivery

Each year, Welsh Government provides the NHS with approximately £18m to fund an extensive Wales-wide research delivery infrastructure – including dedicated healthcare professionals – to enable us to offer patients the choice to participate in clinical trials. The resources required for each study will vary widely, as some studies are more resource intensive than others and the NHS are expected to manage all studies underway within the resource they receive from Welsh Government alongside other sources of funding such as from charities and industry. Individual cost breakdowns at study level and hence cancer site, is not collected.

To provide some information of the number of cancer studies underway. Table 4 shows the breakdowns of open studies per tumour site in each year over a 3-year period.

	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
<b>All Cancer</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>245</b>
Brain	9	10	12
Liver	4	2	2
Lung	28	25	27
Oesophagus	4	6	7
Pancreatic	6	5	6
Stomach	3	4	6
<b>Total (Above tumour sites)</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>55</b>

*\* Some studies relate to more than one tumour site so are counted under each. The total for the year only counts these studies once so the number is lower than the sum of all the tumour sites.*

#### 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](mailto: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,