



Ymddiriedolaeth GIG
Prifysgol Felindre
Velindre University
NHS Trust



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<https://velindre.nhs.wales>

Date: 27th February 2025
Ref: CORP 2025 - 036

Dear xxx

Freedom of Information request: Scientific Research Involving the Use of Animals (CORP 2025 – 036)

Thank you for your request for information which the Trust received on 18th February 2025.

Your Request:

- 1) *Do you fund or co-fund scientific research involving the use of animals under ASPA?*
- 2) *If so, please provide names of organizations funded in the period 2020-2024 and how much each was awarded.*
- 3) *If not, what does 'support' in your policy on animal research refer to, as used in the following statement?*

'The Trust strives to be open and honest about how, why, and when it supports animal research, and will only support animal research projects in line with this policy.'

Please find the Trust's response below:

1) Do you fund or co-fund scientific research involving the use of animals under ASPA?

Velindre University NHS Trust does not directly fund the initiation of scientific research involving the use of animals under ASPA.

2) If so, please provide names of organizations funded in the period 2020-2024 and how much each was awarded.

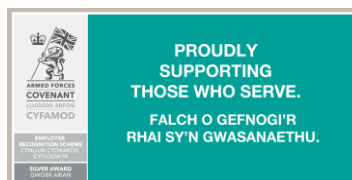
The Trust does not initiate, conduct, or directly fund the initiation of scientific research involving animals and can confirm that no funding has been awarded by the Trust specifically for scientific research involving the use of animals in the period 2020-2024.

3) If not, what does 'support' in your policy on animal research refer to, as used in the following statement?

'The Trust strives to be open and honest about how, why, and when it supports animal research, and will only support animal research projects in line with this policy.'

The term 'support' within the Trust's Policy on the Use of Small Animals in Research (<https://velindre.nhs.wales/policies/research-and-innovation-policies/rd05-use-of-small-animals-in-research-policy/>) does not imply that the Trust initiate, conduct, or directly fund the initiation of scientific research involving animals. Rather, it reflects the Trust's recognition that animal research can play a necessary role in pre-clinical research to develop new treatments and therapies for cancer patients and people living with cancer.

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Velindre University NHS Trust is happy to receive communication in Welsh or English.



The Trust may, on occasion, support applications from researchers seeking external funding for pre-clinical research, which may include animal research, but only under strict conditions outlined in our policy. Any such support is given only under strict ethical, legal, and welfare conditions, in line with the principles of the 3Rs (Replacement, Reduction, and Refinement) and in compliance with ASPA.

Furthermore, the Trust requires that any supported research is conducted by external organisations that are signatories to the **Concordat on Openness on Animal Research in the UK**.

The Trust does not conduct animal research on its own premises and does not directly fund or commission scientific research involving the use of animals.

I trust this answers your request for information, however, should you not be satisfied with the information supplied or the process of supplying it, you have a right to complain and request a review. Please note that you must submit a request for a review within 40 days of the date of this letter.

You should forward your complaint to:

Mr Ian Bevan via FOI.VUNHST@wales.nhs.uk
Head of Information Governance
Velindre University NHS Trust
2, Charnwood Court
Heol Billingsley
Parc Nantgarw
Cardiff / Caerdydd
CF15 7QZ

Should you wish to take your complaint further, if you are still unhappy with the decision after review, you can contact the:

Information Commissioner's Office - Wales
2nd Floor,
Churchill House,
Churchill Way,
Cardiff,
CF10 2HH
Telephone: 0330 414 6421
email: wales@ico.org.uk

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Yours sincerely

**Non Gwilym
Interim Director of Corporate Governance**

Velindre University NHS Trust
2 Charnwood Court
Heol Billingsley
Parc Nantgarw
Cardiff
CF15 7QZ

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