

Date: 27/04/2015

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - Ref: FOI/012205

With reference to your FOI request that was received in connection with 'Agency nurses and locum doctors', please see response below.

1 - Please can you separately tell me the total amount spent by the Trust on agency nurses and locum doctors during the periods:

April 2013 to March 2014;
April 2014 to September 2014.

For clarification purposes, an 'agency nurse' or 'locum doctor' is a person who has been introduced to the Trust for hire on a temporary assignment / engagement by an employment business ('agencies'). This is not the same as a flexible worker engaged via bank.

Agency nurse spend Apr13 to Mar 14 = £2.193m and Apr14 to Sep 14 = £1.239m
Agency Doctors Apr13 to Mar14 = £2.134m and Apr14 to Sep14 = £1.248m

2 - Please can you tell me whether your Trust uses agencies who have been awarded a framework for their supply such as those provided by Crown Commercial Services. If yes, please can you tell me the name of the framework used. If no, can you please tell me the percentage spent with any non-framework agencies? Where this information is not readily available, please provide an estimate.

Yes we use HealthTrust Europe framework for nurses, midwives and locum agency suppliers.

3 - Please can you tell me whether there is a member of your Trust's Board who is accountable for overseeing the use of temporary staff and whether temporary staff usage is regularly discussed at Board meetings. If yes, can you please tell me whether the Board member is a non-executive or an employee of the Trust? If a Trust employee, please can you tell me the role that person has within the Trust.

Temporary staff usage is discussed at the Finance and Performance Committee and the Board.
The accountable Trust Board staff are the Director of Nursing and the Director of Operations

4 - please can you tell me whether your Trust is considering recruiting nurses from overseas in the next 12 months? If yes, can you please confirm the number of nurses and roles your Trust is looking to recruit and the countries you are considering recruiting from.

Yes, 25 Registered nurses from Portugal