

Date: 01/05/2015

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - Ref: FOI/012213

With reference to your FOI request in connection with 'Agency staff', please see response below.

This is a Freedom of Information request regarding the amount of money spent on nursing shifts from outside agencies.

How many nursing shifts (for nurses of any grade) have you needed to cover with agency staff from 31st March 2014, to 31st March 2015?

Registered Nurse 4708
Clinical Support Worker 3207

How much did you spend in total on agency staff between 31st March 2014 and 31st March 2015?
£2,622,738

Did you use Medacs Healthcare plc to provide temporary nursing cover from 31st March 2014 to 31st March 2015, and if so how much did you pay them in total?
£30,594

Did you use Mayday Healthcare plc to provide temporary nursing cover from 31st March 2014 to 31st March 2015, and if so how much did you pay them in total?
£40,893

Did you use Imperial Medical Staffing to provide temporary nursing cover from 31st March 2014 to 31st March 2015, and if so how much did you pay them in total?
£0

Did you use Thornbury Nursing Services to provide temporary nursing cover from 31st March 2014 to 31st March 2015, and if so how much did you pay them in total?
£255,967

From 31st March 2014 to 31st March 2015, what is the highest day rate you have paid for an agency nurse shift and to which agency was this paid?

We do not hold this information – we do not contract on a day rate basis

Are there any duties that an agency nurse would not be allowed to carry out that a staff nurse of the same rank would be?

We would not allow agency staff to undertake duties that they are not competent to undertake. For specialist roles where we require a specific skill e.g. chemotherapy administration they have to provide evidence of competence. This is agreed with the agency prior to the assignment being approved

Do you have any policy to reduce your reliance on nursing agency cover in the future, and if so why?

We are actively recruiting to nurse vacancies, including overseas recruitment, and have increased commissions for nurse training with our local University provider to reduce future reliance on nurse agencies as this is more cost effective. We have a very strict escalation process for the approval of all agency shifts. All requests are reviewed and need approval by the Deputy Director of Nursing, Director of Nursing or the Director on call. This is to risk assess and control the use of agency staff