

Trust Headquarters
Russell's Hall Hospital
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2HQ

Ref: FOI-00034

Date: 4/8/23

Address / Email:

Dear

Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Request

Please answer all questions with the relevant data for the month of March 2023 (1st to the 31st March) for your nursing – inclusive of Adult, Mental Health, Critical, Community and District where applicable for both frameworks and off frameworks Agencies.

Information requested :

1. The total number and spend of nursing shifts sent to agencies to fill (frameworks and off frameworks) Please provide these totals separately
2. The total number and spend of nursing shifts filled by agencies (frameworks and off frameworks) Please provide these totals separately
3. The total number and spend of critical banded nursing shifts sent to agencies to fill. (frameworks and off frameworks) Please provide these totals separately
4. The total number and spend of critical banded nursing shifts filled by agencies. (frameworks and off frameworks) Please provide these totals separately
5. The total number and spend of 'breaches' for filling a shift with agency nurses (Registered Nurses) not within the NHSI capped charge rates.
6. Please provide a list of all frameworks agencies that are currently 'breaching' 'breaches' when filling a shift with agency nurses (Registered Nurses) not within the NHSI capped charge rates.
7. Please provide a list of all frameworks agencies which supply the trust with nursing staff.
8. Please provide a list of off framework agencies which have supplied (from 1st January 2023 to 31st March 2023) into the trust with nursing staff across all sites.
9. From 1st March 2023 to 31st March 2023, please list the wards/ departments you have requested shifts for off framework agencies.

Response

We refer to your recent request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requesting details of any expenditure the Trust may have incurred as result of any agency staff spend. We have received a

significant number of requests on the same subject matter and we therefore ask in the first instance, you check out our disclosure log of previous FOI requests for the information you have requested. Please click [here](#) to access our disclosure log on our website and use the search box to enter key words such as 'agency'. The Trust therefore considers the information you have requested is reasonably accessible by other means as per section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act. If, after looking at previous responses you feel these do not answer your request, could you please refine your request and advise what other information you require which you have not been able to locate.

Some previous responses which may help are 000141, 0003 or type in 'framework' or 'agency'

Please note, when searching for a response by word on the disclosure log all FOI requests that were logged from 1/4/23 will show on the first page onwards and any FOI requests that were logged up until 31/3/23 will be shown on the last pages of the disclosure log. This is due to a new database and numbering system being deployed.

The Trust has almost eliminated agency usage and only uses agencies in extenuating circumstances and where authorised in order to support our financial plans and our patient experience. We have recruited significant numbers of additional staff and are making progress with reducing nursing vacancies.

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you have the right to appeal in line with guidance from the Information Commissioner. In the first instance you may contact the Information Governance Manager of the Trust.

Information Governance Manager
Trust Headquarters
Russell's Hall Hospital
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2HQ
Email: dqft.dpo@nhs.net

Should you disagree with the contents of our response to your appeal, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioners Office at.

Information Commissioners Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 0303 123 1113
www.ico.org.uk

If you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team
The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust