

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

Ref: FOI-000307

Date: 6/9/23

Address / Email:

Dear

Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000

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

Request

Sourced Staffing Arrangements

- 1a. Do you have a master vendor (MV) or neutral vendor (NV) arrangement in place for sourcing agency staff? If so, please state which arrangement is in place
- 1b. What is the name of the MV/NV provider(s) and what staffing groups do they source? e.g. medical, nursing etc.
- 1c. As part of the arrangement, is any technology provided by the supplier to help manage the procurement of agency staff?
- 1d. Please provide the contract start and end date for the supplier (dd/mm/yy)

Direct Engagement

- 2a. Does the organisation use a third party to provide a Direct Engagement/Outsourced Employment Solution? (This is where the NHS organisation sources agency staff via a recruitment agency but hold a direct contract between the organisation and the worker - there is often VAT savings associated to this employment model)
- 2b. What is the name of the Direct Engagement (DE)/Outsourced Employment supplier (e.g 247Time/Allocate, PlusUs, Retinue, Liaison etc.)
- 2c. Under the DE/Outsourced Employment arrangement, which staffing groups are managed? For example; Medical, Admin, Scientific staff. Please list all applicable
- 2d. Please provide the contract start and end date for the DE supplier (dd/mm/yy)
- 2f. How much did the organisation pay the supplier in 22/23 (April 2022 to March 2023) for the provision of the direct engagement service?

Vendor Management System for Nurse Agency

- 3a. Does the organisation use a third-party Vendor Management System for the supply of nurse agency staff?
- 3b. Who supplies your Vendor Management System? E.g. Allocate, NHSP etc.
- 3c. Please provide the contract start and end date for this provider (dd/mm/yy)

Bank Management

- 4a. Please name the technology provider used to manage the supply of your bank staff, inclusive of any outsourced or managed arrangements (i.e. NHSP, Bank Partners, Allocate, Liaison, Patchwork, Locum's Nest etc). If more than one supplier is used, please name all suppliers
- 4b. Please name the staffing group each provider is used for e.g. medical, nursing, AHPs, admin and clerical
- 4c. Please provide the contract start and end date for each bank supplier (dd/mm/yy)
- 4d. How much did the organisation pay the supplier(s) in 22/23 for the provision of the bank service?

Response

The Trust has received a significant number of requests about agency staffing 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, master, direct' etc. FOI reference numbers 000153 and 017622 may also be useful to you. 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.

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: dgft.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