

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

Ref: FOI-000310

Date: 10th October 2023

Address / Email:

Dear

Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000

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

I'm writing to request information from NHS trusts in England about how much was spent on locum and agency doctors during the walkouts held by both consultants and junior doctors over the past 12 months.

Please provide answers for each timeframe and separate each one clearly in your response.

These timeframes are:

- (A) Junior doctor strike – 13, 14 and 15 March 2023
- (B) Junior doctor strike – 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 April
- (C) Junior doctor strike – 14, 15, 16 and 17 June
- (D) Junior doctor strike – 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 July
- (E) Junior doctor strike – 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 August
- (F) Consultant strike – 20 and 21 July
- (G) Consultant strike – 24, 25 and 26 August

For each given timeframe could you please provide the following information.

1. How many staff walked out as a result of industrial action over each period and what percentage of your junior doctor/consultant staff did this equate to. IE – 150 junior doctor staff walked out during 13, 14 and 15 March dates out of 200 junior doctor staff would be 75%.

Period	Number of staff	Percentage of workforce
(A) Junior doctor strike – 13, 14 and 15 March 2023	118	31%
(B) Junior doctor strike – 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 April	121	31.8%
(C) Junior doctor strike – 14, 15, 16 and 17 June	112	28%
(D) Junior doctor strike – 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 July	103	26.14%
(E) Junior doctor strike – 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 August	77	18.78%
(F) Consultant strike – 20 and 21 July	53	19.13%
(G) Consultant strike – 24, 25 and 26 August	34	12.5%

- 2 How much did the trust spend on locum/agency workers during each period specifically as a result of industrial action. If this specific figure is not held, please provide the locum and agency spend for the previous year for each relevant timeframe. IE 13, 14 and 15 March 2023 vs 13, 14 and 15 March 2022.**

£0 medical agency expenditure in each strike period listed.

Medical Locum expenditure & expenditure from same dates in prior year provided in below table:

*Note – Locums taken to mean those Doctors who have a temporary only contract with the Trust.

Period	Locum Spend 2023 period dates	Locum Spend 2022 period dates
(A) Junior doctor strike – 13, 14 and 15 March 2023	£59,318	£45,218
(B) Junior doctor strike – 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 April	£72,121	£75,822
(C) Junior doctor strike – 14, 15, 16 and 17 June	£54,135	£44,866
(D) Junior doctor strike – 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 July	£104,434	£93,294
(E) Junior doctor strike – 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 August	£67,444	£62,940
(F) Consultant strike – 20 and 21 July	£21,013	£30,092
(G) Consultant strike – 24, 25 and 26 August	£13,602	£31,915

- 3. Did the Trust allow doctors who were taking part in industrial action to take on locum shifts at the same trust during strike periods when they were not scheduled to work?**

No

- 4. If the answer to the above question was yes, (a) How many doctors did this during each period and (b) How much did the Trust spend on paying its own doctors for these shifts during each period?**

NA

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