

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

Ref: FOI-000356

Date: 28/9/23

Address / Email:

Dear

Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000

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

Request

Please can you provide the following information in relation to your expenditure over the last financial year (2022/23) of Medical Locum Doctors via off-framework suppliers:

1. Number of hours filled?
2. Broken down by grade/specialty?
3. Off-framework agencies used during this period including the total spend for each agency?
4. Highest off-framework charge rate (including detail of grade/specialty)?
5. Average off-framework charge rates per grade/specialty (if available)?
6. Contact details for the member of staff / department responsible for on-boarding Doctor agencies?

On top of the above. Please could you clarify the below Nursing information;

1. In the last 60 days how many hours has your trust utilised Thornbury Nursing Services for agency nurses?
2. In the last 60 days which wards, departments were these TNS requests for?
3. Please can you confirm how many nursing shifts have been filled by Thornbury Nursing Services?
4. In the last 60 days has your Trust utilised any other off framework provider for agency nurses? If yes, please name these providers.
5. Please can you confirm how many shifts have been released/allocated to off framework agencies within the last 60 days?
6. In the last 60 days which wards, or departments were these off framework requests for?
7. Please can you confirm how many nursing shifts have been filled by off framework agencies within the last 60 days?
8. How many long-term lines of work or block bookings are currently being supplied by off framework agencies?
9. Which off framework agencies is the trust currently utilising for Nursing vacancies and what is the spend on these agencies year to date?
10. What is the average charge for both RMN's and RGN's from off framework agencies?
11. Who at director level is responsible for patient safety and staffing levels?
12. Who at temporary staffing is responsible for onboarding new agencies and could you provide me with their contact details?
13. Can you confirm if your Off-Framework agency suppliers list (PSL) is always looking to onboard new agencies. If not, what dates does the Trust review this list and look to bring new agencies onto it?

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 can confirm 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', 'Thornbury', 'off framework'. 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

