

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

Ref: FOI-000363

Date: 3/10/23

Address / Email:

Dear

Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000

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

Request

Please provide me with the below details;

1. A list of the OFF-framework agencies used by the trust in the past 12 months'
2. The average length of time a long-term agency placement is left vacant before being filled by the agencies who are ON framework in the past 12 months'
3. How many long-term bookings and individual shifts have been placed through OFF-framework agencies in the past 12 months' (Please separate individual shifts and long-term placements)
4. Average cost per hour for Band 5, 6 and 7 agency workers paid to OFF-framework agencies in the past 12 months'
5. Who in the trust has authority to approve the use of off-framework agencies (name and job title)
6. If authority to use off-framework agencies in the trust lies with a specific department i.e., temporary staffing/staffing solutions/agency bookings/NHSP or equivalents, then who in the trust has the authority to override such decision made by that department (name and job title)

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' or 'framework', 000232 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