

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 5214

**Please reply to:**  
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### **Freedom of Information Act 2000**

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to Agency Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians.

*You asked:*

*I would like you to send me the locum agency spend in the AHP/HSS division of the hospital for Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians. I would like to know the spend for 2018 with each agency- if this is not possible then I'd like to know overall spend for the year for both Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians.*

Trust response:

Expenditure on Agency Pharmacists and Pharmacy technicians during the financial year 2017/1018 was £850,198.

We do not publish details of the amounts spent with particular agencies. The Trust is applying Section 43(2) FOIA which provides an exemption from disclosure of information which would or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it). This is a qualified exemption, and is therefore subject to the public interest test.

The Trust believes that the information requested contains details which would be likely to damage the companies ability to win new business opportunities for their services and to perform them within a commercially competitive market.

The Trust has concluded that the public interest in maintaining the exemption, and therefore protecting the commercial interests of the suppliers and

preserving its ability to compete fairly in a commercial market, outweighs the public interest in disclosure in this case.

#### Supplier Transactions

All NHS bodies are required to publish details of individual invoices and transactions that are over £25,000. This is in response to guidance from HM Treasury which sets out the scope of the data. Details can be found on our website using the following link: [www.mtw.nhs.uk/about-us/our-quality-story/finance/](http://www.mtw.nhs.uk/about-us/our-quality-story/finance/)