

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 5673

Please reply to:
FOI Administrator
Trust Management
Maidstone Hospital
Hermitage Lane
Maidstone, Kent
ME16 9QQ
Email: mtw-tr.foiadmin@nhs.net

26 September 2019

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 nursing shifts.

You asked:

- 1) How many agency nursing shifts have your Trust used Thornbury nursing services for between 1st July 2019 and 31st July 2019?*
- 2) How many agency nursing shifts have your Trust used Thornbury nursing services for between the dates of 1/8/2019 and 18/8/2019?*
- 3) Please provide a breakdown of the amount of shifts per ward or department where Thornbury were used in July 2019 and 1/8/19- 18/8/19/.*
- 4) Please provide a breakdown for July 2019 of the amount of shifts filled at your Trust by other off contract nursing providers (ie non-framework). Please break this down in the same format (ie by ward or department) as question 3.*

Trust response:

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. The ward or departments where Thornbury were used in the requested timeframe was Hedgehog Ward (TW)

4. All other supply is in line with contract rates below NHSI caps.