

Ref: FOI/CAD/ID 4192

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 Locum Audiologists.

- 1. Are the Locum Audiologists that are selected by the trust registered with a regulatory body? If not, why not and when will this become a mandatory trust requirement?*
- 2. Does the trust believe in regulated professionals raising the quality of care given to patients as per other trusts where mandatory registration with the RCCP is a precursor?*
- 3. When does the trust envision the newly recruited Audiologists taking up their posts? Will the locum cover cease or continue after this date?*
- 4. Has the trust sought to recruit band 5 locum's? When was the last time this was attempted to reduce costs? Is this something the trust would consider now to save taxpayer's money?*
- 5. What is the present weekly spend on locum's excluding agency fees per full time (2) and part time locum?*
- 6. What is the process in place for the trust in "increasing hourly rates" as per previous FOI - who makes the final decision on the rate given to a locum Audiologist and how is this audited?*
- 7. Within the trust recruitment checks are immediate prior employers (locum) sought for a reference or does MTW NHS trust allow for references from any sources? How does the trust ensure competency with the locums used?*

1. The Registration Council for Clinical Physiologists has held a voluntary register for practitioners in six disciplines of Clinical Physiology since 2001'. The Trust would like this to be mandatory if it became compulsory.

2. This question does not fall within the remit of the Freedom of Information Act.

3. The recruitment department have not confirmed start dates. Once they are in post the Trust will no longer need to employ locums.

4. The Trust has been unsuccessful in recruiting band 5 locum audiologists due to pay and long distance travel.

5. Approx. £2900

6. The rate is dependent on experience. The hourly rate does not tend to change and normally stay the same as the initial agreement.

7. Within the trust recruitment checks are immediate prior employers (locum) sought for a reference.

C.V will ensure the qualifications and required experience to work at the level that is needed for the position.

Patient feedback is closely monitored.