

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 4140

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

02 August 2017

### **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 IELTS exams.

*1) How many nurses, midwives, health visitors and healthcare assistants had to pass the International English Language Test System (IELTS) exam before they joined your organisation?*

*2) How many nurses, midwives, health visitors and healthcare assistants undertook IELTS exams while already employed by your organisation?*

*3) For the last two financial years please identify:*

*a How many nurses failed IELTS*

*b How many nurses retook the IELTS exam*

*c How many nurses passed the IELTS exam*

*4) If your organisation covers the cost of any form of tutorial support for nurses before they undertake IELTS please provide the cost of this.*

1. None
2. 48
- 3a. 43
- 3b. 20
- 3c. 7
4. IELTS Preparation Course: March-June, 2015 (£9,600)  
IELTS Preparation Course (with a focus on reading and writing): May-August, 2016 (£12,200)

Now recommend that individuals undertake a longer course (such as ESOL) to help them improve their English language skills.