

Maidstone and 
Tunbridge Wells

NHS Trust

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 4769

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

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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 the Engagement of locum staff using third parties.

You asked:

- 1. Does your organization use a Direct Engagement scheme?*
- 2. If so, who provides it? And when did you start using it?*
- 3. Did you take external legal advice before entering into it and, if so, from whom did you take external legal advice?*
- 4. What has your total locum/temporary staffing spend since you started using the scheme? If you started using the scheme before April 2017 please also state the total locum/temporary staffing spend since April 2017.*
- 5. How does the third party direct engagement facilitator save you money on the agency spend? Please answer in short point form*
- 6. How much has been paid to the third party direct engagement facilitator thus far?*
- 7. Was this payment calculated as a percentage of the savings generated by employing the services of the third party direct engagement facilitator? If so, what percentage is this?*

Trust response:

1. Yes
2. 247 Time, 2016
3. Yes - Brachers
- 4.

Year	AHP	Medical	Periods
1617	£1,041,956.00	£3,565,582.00	M08-M12
1718	£2,153,264.00	£10,264,478.00	M01-M12
1819	£507,235.00	£3,020,083.00	M01-M03
Total	£3,702,455.00	£16,850,142.00	

5. Savings on VAT payments

6. 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 because other contracting authorities and competitors would be aware of the strengths and weaknesses of its delivery model and methodology.

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.

7.
No