

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 5750

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

04 October 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 nurses.

You asked: Could the trust please provide information on how much has been spent on agency nurses?

This financial year to date
2018/19 financial year
2017/18 financial year

Are these amounts higher, lower or within the budgets allocated for agency staff?

Are there any measures being implemented to lower the reliance or use of agency staff?

Trust response:

1) Spend for April to August (5 months) was £2,693k which was more than budgeted

- 2) Spent £9,568k which was more than budgeted
- 3) Spent £8,132k which was less than budgeted

In order to facilitate a reduction in reliance on agency staff we are actively recruiting both nationally and internationally in order to fill our substantive nursing vacancies. We are also actively recruiting to our internal staff bank in order to facilitate a regular supply of bank nurses.