

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 6177

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

25 June 2020

## **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 temporary staff management and spend.

*You asked:*

### Sourced Staffing Arrangements

*1a. Do you have a master vendor (MV) or neutral vendor (NV) arrangement in place for sourcing agency staff? If so, please state which arrangement is in place*

*1b. What is the name of the MV/NV provider?*

*1c. Please provide the contract start and end date for this provider*

### Temporary Staffing Spend

*2. How much did the organisation spend on agency (non-contract) staff and internal bank staff for the financial year 19/20 (April 2019 - March 2020). Please fill in the table to represent the agency and bank spend for the below staffing groups-*

### Direct Engagement/Outsource Employment Solution

*3a. Does the organisation use a third party to provide a Direct Engagement (DE)/Outsourced Employment Solution? (This is where the NHS organisation sources agency staff via a recruitment agency but hold a direct contract between the organisation and the worker - there is often VAT savings associated to this employment model)*

*3b. What is the name of the DE/Outsourced Employment supplier? (e.g. 247Time/Allocate, PlusUs, Retinue, Liaison etc.)*

*3c. Under the DE/Outsourced Employment arrangement, which staffing groups are managed? For example; Medical, Admin, Scientific etc. Please list all applicable*

*3d. Does your DE supplier provide reporting as part of their service? For example, producing NHS Improvement weekly return reports*

*3e. Please provide the contract start and end date for the DE supplier*

3f. How much did the organisation spend in 19/20 for the provision of the direct engagement service?

Trust response:

Sourced Staffing Arrangements

1a. No

Temporary Staffing Spend

2. Under Section 21 of the Act we are not required to provide information in response to a request if the information is already reasonably accessible to you. The information you requested is available from the trust website using the following link/s: <https://www.mtw.nhs.uk/freedom-of-information/recent-foiresponses/> The link should take you to the Data to Support FAQ's page where you need to click on the Finance dropdown.

Alternatively, from our website home page, click the Freedom of Information Tab, then the Data to Support FAQ's tab and then the Finance dropdown at the bottom of the page where you will find all the information.

This information will be updated on a regular basis.

Direct Engagement/Outsource Employment Solution

3a. Yes

3b. Under Section 21 of the Act we are not required to provide information in response to a request if the information is already reasonably accessible to you.

The information you requested is available from the trust website using the following link/s:

<http://www.mtw.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Direct-Engagement-DEVAT-saving.-300519.pdf>

3c. Medical, AHP

3d. No

3e. Under Section 21 of the Act we are not required to provide information in response to a request if the information is already reasonably accessible to you.

The information you requested is available from the trust website using the following link/s:

<http://www.mtw.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Direct-Engagement-DEVAT-saving.-300519.pdf>

3f. Further information will not be released under 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.

### Supplier Transactions

All NHS bodies are required to publish details of individual invoices and transactions that are over £25,000. This is in response to guidance from HM Treasury which sets out the scope of the data. Details can be found on our website using the following link: [www.mtw.nhs.uk/about-us/our-quality-story/finance/](http://www.mtw.nhs.uk/about-us/our-quality-story/finance/)