

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 6042

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

24 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 International Recruitment of nurses.

You asked:

- 1. Can you please tell me if the trust used agencies to recruit international nurses during 2019?*
- 2. If the trust did use agencies, can you tell me how many nurses were recruited and how much was spent recruiting overseas nurses via both framework and off framework agencies?*
- 3. Can I also have the total cost to recruit one international nurse and what upfront costs the trust incurred?*
- 4. Does the Trust have plans to recruit nurses internationally during 2020?*

Trust response:

1. Yes
2. 205 recruited.

The Trust is applying Section 43(2) FOIA to further information 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/

3. No upfront costs.

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4. Yes however numbers are not confirmed yet