

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 6624

**Please reply to:**  
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13 April 2021

## 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 Medical locum agencies.

*You asked:*

- 1) Which locum/staffing agencies have you engaged to be part of your medical (doctors) agency cascade? Please provide the names of the agencies split into the relevant tiers. If you do not use a tier system, please explain how vacancies are cascaded with agencies.*
- 2) Please provide a breakdown of the proportion of medical (doctor) locum hours booked through each of these tiers for the last three years. If this is not available, please provide a breakdown of the proportion of medical (doctor) locum spend incurred through each of these tiers for the last three years. If only recent years are available, please provide what you have.*
- 3) What is the protocol for releasing medical (doctor) vacancies to each of your tiers?*
- 4) When are the current arrangements relating to your agency cascade in place until?*

Trust response:

1. List of supplier detailed below and we do not operate a tiering system, all roles are cascade to all suppliers at the same time.

Doctors on Call
DRC Locums
Fresh Medical
Holt Doctors
Locum Vision
Medacs
Medecho

Mediplacements (TPG)
Medsol
My Locum
NC Healthcare
Pathology Group
Pertemps
ProMedical
Provide
RM Medics
TLC
TXM Healthcare

2. 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.

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.

3. All roles are cascade to all suppliers at the same time.

4. Contracts are in the process of being renewed.