

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 6997

**Please reply to:**  
FOI Administrator  
Trust Management  
Maidstone Hospital  
Hermitage Lane  
Maidstone, Kent  
ME16 9QQ  
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[www.mtw.nhs.uk](http://www.mtw.nhs.uk)

11 January 2022

## **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 Nursing and HCA agency staffing.

*You asked:*

- 1. What has been the agency spend so far this year?*
- 2. How much of this is for nursing/Health Care Assistants?*
- 3. How much was spent on break-glass/off-framework nursing shifts?*
- 4. How many break-glass/off-framework agencies have you used?*
- 5. Which break-glass/off-framework agencies have you used?*
- 6. How many unfilled shifts have you had?*
- 7. Do you use agency to supply associate physicians?*
- 8. If yes, what has the agency spend for associate physicians so far this year been?*
- 9. Do you use agency to supply dental nurses?*
- 10. If yes, what has the agency spend for dental nurses so far this year been?*

Trust response:

1. 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 FOI 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 FOI FAQ's tab and then the Finance dropdown at the bottom of the page where you will find all the information.

This information is updated on a regular basis and is exempt under Section 22 of the Act.

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 FOI 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 FOI FAQ's tab and then the Finance dropdown at the bottom of the page where you will find all the information.

This information is updated on a regular basis and is exempt under Section 22 of the Act.

3. 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.

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/)

4. 1

5. Thornbury Nursing Services

6. Period not specified

7. No

8. Not applicable

9. No

10. Not applicable