

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 7451

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

26 August 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 agency usage.

You asked:

1.
 - (a) Who is the head of procurement at your trust responsible for approving Nursing agency usage?*
 - (b) Secondly, who is the temporary / flexible staffing lead responsible for the management of this service.*
2. *Please can you provide the contact information in relation to both question 1 (a) and (b)*
3. *Please can you outline your Off-Framework agency spend for each of the following staff groups between Dec 2021 – May 2022:*
 - (a) RGN's*
 - (b) RCN's*
 - (c) RN's*
 - (d) HealthCare Assistants*
 - (e) RMN*
 - (f) Specialist RN (ITU)*
4. *Following the same breakdown of staff groups in Question 3, how many Off-framework shifts have been unfilled between Dec 2021 – Present*
5. *Since the start of January 2022 - present, please provide the current charge rates from your Off Framework, Nursing providers, providing a clear breakdown between the workers pay rate and agency commission*
6. *Based on the above information, who are your current Nursing Off-Framework agencies and how many shifts have been booked for each month from January 2022 – Present*

Trust response:

1. a) & b). Falls under the remit of the Chief People Officer. Further details can be found on our website.

2. a) & b). Falls under the remit of the Chief People Officer. Further details can be found on our website.

3. Section 43 - 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.

4. Dec 2021 – Present (24th August 2022) - 3462 shifts

5. Section 43 - 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.

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6. Thornbury Nursing Services. Further information is exempt under Section 43 of the Act.