

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 8390

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

03 August 2023

### **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 Agency costs during industrial action.

*You asked: All questions are shown as received by the Trust.  
How much have you spent on agency staff during days in which industrial action was taken by staff in your trust since 1st December 2022?*

Trust response:

This information is not held in a reportable format on either our HR rostering or Finance invoicing systems as there is not a reason of Industrial Action available. The Trust has estimated that it will cost more than the appropriate limit to consider your request. The appropriate limit is specified in regulations and represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Trust holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 the Trust is not obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing your request further. A reason of Industrial Action has now been added so for any future strike action that is an option that can be used but we will be reliant on the individual units using the reason as indicated.

The Trust publishes details of all agency and bank spend on our website. Please use the following link: <https://www.mtw.nhs.uk/freedom-of-information/recent-foi-responses/> this 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. If the document does not open please copy and paste the link into your browser.

Please note the spreadsheet takes some time to download.  
This information is updated on a regular basis and is exempt under Section 22  
of the Act.