

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 8467

Please reply to:
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Trust Management
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31 October 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 Locum shifts during industrial action.

*You asked: All questions are shown as received by the Trust.
how much was spent on locum and agency doctors during the walkouts held by both consultants and junior doctors over the past 12 months.
Please provide answers for each timeframe and separate each one clearly in your response.*

These timeframes are:

- (A) Junior doctor strike – 13, 14 and 15 March 2023*
- (B) Junior doctor strike – 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 April*
- (C) Junior doctor strike – 14, 15, 16 and 17 June*
- (D) Junior doctor strike – 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 July*
- (E) Junior doctor strike – 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 August*
- (F) Consultant strike – 20 and 21 July*
- (G) Consultant strike – 24, 25 and 26 August*

For each given timeframe could you please provide the following information.

- 1. How many staff walked out as a result of industrial action over each period and what percentage of your junior doctor/consultant staff did this equate to. IE – 150 junior doctor staff walked out during 13, 14 and 15 March dates out of 200 junior doctor staff would be 75%.*
- 2. How much did the trust spend on locum/agency workers during each period specifically as a result of industrial action. If this specific figure is not held, please provide the locum and agency spend for the previous year for each relevant timeframe. IE 13, 14 and 15 March 2023 vs 13, 14 and 15 March 2022.*

3. *Did the Trust allow doctors who were taking part in industrial action to take on locum shifts at the same trust during strike periods when they were not scheduled to work?*

4. *If the answer to the above question was yes, (a) How many doctors did this during each period and (b) How much did the Trust spend on paying its own doctors for these shifts during each period?*

Trust response:

(A), (B), (C), (D), (E), (F) and (G)

The Trust publishes details of all agency and bank spend on our website under Section 21 of the Act. 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.

1.

Date	Month	Type	Number	%
13	Mar	Junior	187	31
14	Mar	Junior	205	34
15	Mar	Junior	206	34
11	Apr	Junior	220	35
12	Apr	Junior	226	36
13	Apr	Junior	208	33
14	Apr	Junior	205	33
14	Jun	Junior	190	30
15	Jun	Junior	171	27
16	Jun	Junior	166	26
13	Jul	Junior	151	24
14	Jul	Junior	132	21
15	Jul	Junior	39	6
16	Jul	Junior	43	7
17	Jul	Junior	160	25
11	Aug	Junior	208	33
12	Aug	Junior	53	8
13	Aug	Junior	51	8
14	Aug	Junior	210	33
20	Jul	Consultant	58	16
21	Jul	Consultant	69	19
24	Aug	Consultant	55	15
25	Aug	Consultant	59	16

2. (A), (B), (C), (D), (E), (F) and (G)

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.

3. Trust staff were not given permission to work bank shifts, nor however, were they prohibited.

4. None.