

Our Ref: NG/RM/24074
Date: 22nd March 2024

Nicola Griffiths
Deputy Director of Governance
North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust
Lawton House
Bellringer Road
Trentham
ST4 8HH

Reception: 0300 123 1535

Dear

Freedom of Information Act Request

I am writing in response to your e-mail of the 26th February 2024. Your request has been processed using the Trust's procedures for the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

Requested information:

Section A: Total Agency Spend Per Job Category - Last 6 Months

1. In the period between 1st August 2023 and 31st January 2024, how much did the Trust spend on Agency Medical Locums (including all locum grades, including locum pay, agency fees, on costs etc. - excluding only VAT. Please exclude the cost of any MSP fee (managed service provider fee) where such arrangements mean that this is distinguishable from the agency fee.
2. In the period between 1st August 2023 and 31st January 2024, how much did the Trust spend on Agency Nurses (including nurse pay, agency fees, on costs etc. - excluding only VAT. Please exclude the cost of any MSP fee (managed service provider fee) where such arrangements mean that this is distinguishable from the agency fee. Please include all nursing bands, including band 2 HCAs. If possible, please break down the spend by banding.
3. In the period between 1st August 2023 and 31st January 2024, how much did the Trust spend on Agency AHP/HSS workers (including all AHP.HSS job roles, including pay, agency fees, on costs etc. - excluding only VAT. Please exclude the cost of any MSP fee (managed service provider fee) where such arrangements mean that this is distinguishable from the agency fee.
4. In the period between 1st August 2023 and 31st January 2024, how much did the Trust spend on Non-Medical / Non-Clinical (NMNC) agency workers (including all NMNC job roles, including pay, agency fees, on costs etc. - excluding only VAT. Please exclude the cost of any MSP fee (managed service provider fee) where such arrangements mean that this is distinguishable from the agency fee.

Total Agency	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24
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Chief Executive: Dr Buki Adeyemo
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	£	£	£	£	£	£
Medical	208	61	208	200	267	197
Nursing	245	170	295	286	241	349
Non-NHS staff-PAM	2	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Clinical	46	3	34	19	12	9

We are unable to provide the breakdown by band, to supply this information would require a manual trawl of invoices. We believe that the cost of collating the information in order to respond to your request would exceed the threshold of £450 as defined by the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate limit Fees) Regulations 2004. As a result, we are refusing your request under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information 2000.

Section B: Supporting Services (Managed Services / Master Vendors / Neutral Vendors / Vendor Management Technology etc.)

1.0. For each of the agency staffing categories mentioned above (Medical Locums, Agency Nurses, AHP/HSS and NMNC), does the Trust utilise either a technology provision and/or the services of any type of managed service provider (MSP), be it Master Vendor, Neutral Vendor, Managed Service or otherwise, in the course of managing the supply of Medical Locums?

If yes to Section B - 1.0, please also answer 1.1 and 1.2:

1.1: For each staff category, please describe the solution in place - including a. the type of solution (i.e. tech or managed services etc.), b. the company providing the service (e.g. Medacs, Retinue, NHSP etc.), c. the cost charged for the solution (e.g. 4% of agency spend, or [X] per timesheet hour), and d. the procurement Framework under which the solution is contracted (e.g. CCS RM6161 or HTE TWS11 Lot 2b etc.).

1.2: For each of the solutions you've listed above, please state the contract expiry date.

Please see Appendix 1 attached.

Section C: Procurement Activity and Associated Persons

1. Please advise whether the Trust is likely to undertake procurement activity in relation to any of the solution either that are already in place, or in order to put such a solution in place, in the next 12 months.
2. Please provide the name, email address and telephone number, for the person(s) involved in 'buying' such solutions. In case of the existing contracts mentioned above, please provide the details of the person who would take overall ownership of evaluating the contract renewal moving forward.

Procurement is outsourced and provided by University Hospital of North Midlands (UHNM) <https://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/>

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review of the management of your request. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Dr Buki Adeyemo, Chief Executive, North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare Trust, Trust Headquarters, Lawton House, Bellringer Road, Trentham, ST4 8HH. If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the

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Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely



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Deputy Director of Governance



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	Doctors	Nurses	Allied Health Professionals or Health Scientists	Non-Medical, Non-Clinical
Solution	Neutral vendor	Master Vend	N/A	N/A
Provider/ Expiry date	Retinue – 10/10/2024	Day Webster. October 2024	N/A	N/A
Bank Management	In House	In House	In House	In House
Software	No software used.	RLDATIX Previously known as Allocate Software	No software used.	No software used.
Cost Charged for Solution	3.5%	The Trust does not hold this information as Procurment is outsourced to UHNM	N/A	N/A