

Our Ref: LW/lmw/FOI.136.23  
Date: 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023

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

Tel 01782 275030

Dear

### Freedom of Information Act Request

I am writing in response to your e-mail of the 26<sup>th</sup> April 2023. Your request has been processed using the Trust's procedures for the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

#### ***Requested information:***

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following workforce information for your Trust for each of the following pay years: 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23:

- The consultant workforce expressed in headcount (average of the monthly totals during each year). **2022/23 – 35 headcounts**
- The consultant workforce expressed in whole time or full time equivalent (WTE/FTE), where WTE/FTE reflects all programmed activities undertaken by consultants, including additional programmed activities (average of the monthly totals during each year). By programmed activities, we mean the unit used by hospitals to plan consultant work. **31 WTE**
  - For avoidance of doubt, this is different to the FTE figure routinely published in the NHS Digital NHS Workforce Statistics (<https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/nhs-workforce-statistics>), where individual consultants contributing to that figure can only take up to a value of 1 FTE, even where they are working more than full-time.
- The total number of all programmed activities (PAs) performed by consultants during each of the stated years. **240.5 PAs per week. We are unable to provide Additional PA information unfortunately, so this only includes up to a maximum of 10 PAs per Consultant. As mentioned, the Trust does not have a rostering system, and are therefore unable to accurately calculate the total number of PAs worked per year.**
- The total number of additional programmed activities (APA's) performed by consultants during each of the stated years. By additional programmed activities, we

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Chief Executive: Dr Buki Adeyemo  
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mean programmed activities that are additional to those in consultant main contracts (i.e. those above programmed activities above 10 per week, in the case of a full-time consultant). **We are unable to report on the number of additional PAs per year.**

- Total number of programmed activities (PAs) and/or hours of extra contractual work (i.e. excluding APAs, e.g. waiting list initiative activity, additional sessions outside the job plan, etc) performed by consultants during each of the stated years. **We are unable to calculate this information.**
- The total number of programmed activities (PAs) performed by consultants during a.) weekends, b.) weekday evenings, c.) weekday nights, and d.) weekday days during each of the stated years. **No PAs have been or are performed by consultants outside of Monday-Friday core working hours.**
  - For avoidance of doubt, we mean:
    - weekends: any time on a Saturday or a Sunday
    - weekday evenings: 7 pm to 11 pm Monday to Friday
    - weekday nights: 11 pm to 7 am Monday to Friday
    - weekday days: 7 am to 7 pm Monday to Friday
- The number of consultant vacancies in the Trust expressed in whole time or full time equivalent (WTE/FTE) at the beginning of each of the stated years.
- Where it is not possible to provide this information going all the way back to December 2018, please provide the data as far back as is possible

	Apr 2018	Apr 2019	Apr 2020	Apr 2021	Apr 2022	Apr 2023
<b>CONSULTANT</b>	<b>6.61</b>	<b>7.00</b>	<b>4.05</b>	<b>10.85</b>	<b>9.22</b>	<b>9.94</b>

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 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

*L. Wrench*

**Laurie Wrench**  
**Deputy Director of Governance**



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