

Our Ref: LW/lmw/FOI.281.23
Date: 6th October 2023

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

Tel 01782 275030

Dear

Freedom of Information Act Request

I am writing in response to your e-mail of the 6th September 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:

1. Sourced Staffing Arrangements

- a. Do you have a master vendor (MV) or neutral vendor (NV) arrangement in place for sourcing agency staff? If so, please state which arrangement is in place.
- b. What is the name of the MV/NV provider(s) and what staffing groups do they source? e.g., medical, nursing etc.
- c. As part of the arrangement, is any technology provided by the supplier to help manage the procurement of agency staff?
- d. Please provide the contract start and end date for the supplier (dd/mm/yy)

2. Direct Engagement

- a. Does the organisation use a third party to provide a Direct Engagement/Outsourced Employment Solution? (This is where the NHS organisation sources agency staff via a recruitment agency but hold a direct contract between the organisation and the worker - there is often VAT savings associated to this employment model)
- b. What is the name of the Direct Engagement (DE)/Outsourced Employment supplier (e.g., 247Time/Allocate, PlusUs, Retinue, Liaison etc.)
- c. Under the DE/Outsourced Employment arrangement, which staffing groups are managed? For example, Medical, Admin, Scientific staff. Please list all applicable
- d. Please provide the contract start and end date for the DE supplier (dd/mm/yy)
- e. How much did the organisation pay the supplier in 22/23 (April 2022 to March 2023) for the provision of the direct engagement service?

3. Vendor Management System for Nurse Agency

- a. Does the organisation use a third-party Vendor Management System for the supply of nurse agency staff?
- b. Who supplies your Vendor Management System? E.g., Allocate, NHSP etc.
- c. Please provide the contract start and end date for this provider (dd/mm/yy)

4. Bank Management

- a. Please name the technology provider used to manage the supply of your bank staff, inclusive of any outsourced or managed arrangements (i.e., NHSP, Bank Partners, Allocate, Liaison, Patchwork, Locum's Nest etc). If more than one supplier is used, please name all suppliers.
- b. Please name the staffing group each provider is used for e.g., medical, nursing, AHPs, admin and clerical.
- c. Please provide the contract start and end date for each bank supplier (dd/mm/yy)
- d. How much did the organisation pay the supplier(s) in 22/23 for the provision of the bank service?

Please see Appendix 1 attached.

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



Laurie Wrench
Deputy Director of Governance



Chairman: David Rogers
Chief Executive: Dr Buki Adeyemo
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		Nursing	Medical
1. Sourced Staffing Arrangements	a. Do you have a master vendor (MV) or neutral vendor (NV) arrangement in place for sourcing agency staff? If so, please state which arrangement is in place	Master Vendor	Neutral Vendor
	b. What is the name of the MV/NV provider(s) and what staffing groups do they source? e.g., medical, nursing etc.	Day Webster	Retinue
	c. As part of the arrangement, is any technology provided by the supplier to help manage the procurement of agency staff?	No-The Trust Use Datix (Previously Known as Allocate Software)	Yes. Web based system to log vacancies and manage vacancies and appointments
	d. Please provide the contract start and end date for the supplier (dd/mm/yy)	03/10/2023 followed by 3 periods of 12 months as optional extras- which the Trust in the process of renewing for 12 months	10/10/2024
2. Direct Engagement	a. Does the organisation use a third party to provide a Direct Engagement/Outsourced Employment Solution? (This is where the NHS organisation sources agency staff via a recruitment agency but hold a direct contract between the organisation and the worker - there is often VAT savings associated to this employment model)	No	Yes
	b. What is the name of the Direct Engagement (DE)/Outsourced Employment supplier (e.g., 247Time/Allocate, PlusUs, Retinue, Liaison etc.)	N/A	Retinue
	c. Under the DE/Outsourced Employment arrangement, which staffing groups are managed? For example, Medical, Admin, Scientific staff. Please list all applicable	N/A	Medical staff
	d. Please provide the contract start and end date for the DE supplier (dd/mm/yy)	N/A	10/10/2024
	e. How much did the organisation pay the supplier in 22/23 (April 2022 to March 2023) for the provision of the direct engagement service?	N/A	£78,000
3. Vendor Management System for Nurse Agency	a. Does the organisation use a third-party Vendor Management System for the supply of nurse agency staff?	Yes	N/A
	b. Who supplies your Vendor Management System? E.g., Allocate, NHSP etc.	Allocate	N/A
	c. Please provide the contract start and end date for this provider (dd/mm/yy)	29/11/2024	N/A
4. Bank Management	a. Please name the technology provider used to manage the supply of your bank staff, inclusive of any outsourced or managed arrangements (i.e., NHSP, Bank Partners, Allocate, Liaison, Patchwork, Locum's Nest etc). If more than one supplier is used, please name all suppliers.	Allocate	None in place for medical staff – it is all managed internally
	b. Please name the staffing group each provider is used for e.g., medical, nursing, AHPs, admin and clerical	Nursing	N/A
	c. Please provide the contract start and end date for each bank supplier (dd/mm/yy)	29/11/2024	N/A
	d. How much did the organisation pay the supplier(s) in 22/23 for the provision of the bank service?	Cannot separate this as overall cost for suite of products	N/A